

# Maclean's

## The Private PARIZEAU

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of the man who wants  
to lead Quebec to  
independence

Jacques Parizeau  
and wife Lisette Lapointe



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# Maclean's

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## The private Parizeau

**14** Jacques Parizeau, who once declined to become premier of Quebec after the province's voters cast their ballots on Sept. 12, has changed his image but not his convictions. His new wife has helped him to relax—but the Parti Québécois leader remains the unyielding separatist he has been since he decided in 1968 that Quebec must be independent.

## Downing arms

**32** The Irish Republican Army called a halt to its armed struggle against Britain that on the streets of Belfast, where suspicion and cynicism run deep, there was no agreement on whether peace—or more war—lay ahead.



## Drug-busting dramas

**46** Last week, the RCMP closed in on what they say is the biggest drug-related money-laundering racket ever uncovered in Canada. And in a bizarre, convoluted drama, Quebec provincial police distract a town's entire police force for questioning as part of an investigation into drug trafficking and other illegal activities.

COVER PHOTO: JAMES HAMILTON/REUTERS  
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# LETTERS

## Potential difference

I would like to express my gratitude to *Maclean's* for bringing the plight of our gifted learners to the attention of the Canadian public ("Bright kids, bright future" Cover, Aug. 29). These children are too often ignored, and the article assumes to make that they will thrive on their own. But you are too kind. You rightly point out that the Gifted Children's Association of British Columbia had requested a voluntary audit of the North Vancouver School District and that the latter was found to have received funds for gifted programs. In fact, the money extracted from the primary coffers in the name of these children is in the hundreds of thousands and not the \$41,000 you have quoted.

Lorraine Bissett,  
North Shore Chapter, Gifted Children's  
Association of British Columbia,  
North Vancouver

I am 35 and going into Grade 10 (the normal grade level for a 15-year-old). I am a gifted student and have had opportunities to skip—sorry—advance a grade plenty of times. But I didn't and I don't think I have suffered. The trick was, and is, self-enrichment. If I finish the present assignment in class, I move on to the next or read a book. And I've always done that. The resources have always been there. I don't think separating gifted students is necessary to relieve their educational enrichment. If they take initiative, they can do just as well and compete just as well as the outside world.

Michael Munnich,  
Nanaimo, B.C.

As the parents of an identified "challenged" child going through the school system in a time of perpetual cutbacks, I have to say that the money spent on the children having a terrible time learning to read and write. Otherwise, the advanced bright kids will be supporting the illiterate on welfare for their lifetimes.

Pete Candlish,  
Kirkland, Ont.

## Reality check

Reading Fred Flintheart's comments about *Maclean's* ("The self hypnosis of America," An American View, Aug. 29), I don't believe he said I saw the same scene. Gump announces loudly and clearly that it is



Gifted students in class at Toronto's Ryerson Public School often ignored

an allegory and satire. I don't believe someone thinks it is a movie about what really happens. What does the movie say about sports teams and celebrity instantism and hard-work capitalism and cure war heroes? It mocks them mercilessly. But at the same time, it real-figures on insurance and problems at the heart of the American (and, by extension, human) experience.

Bob Wisniewski,  
West Vancouver

## Speed bumps

Ontario drivers who already stay within sight of the legal limit are anything but annoyed about phone radar ("Big brother radar," Canada, Aug. 29). We are anticipating even pressure coming with less fear that we are the potential victims of a hidden radar. And, believe me, we don't intend to pay for it. Of this new voluntary tax.

Stewart Brown,  
Peterborough, Ont.

Why do lawbreakers always carp about rights and ignore the more important concept of responsibility? What about my right to drive without being harassed by speeders? Officers' fines can help pay for the medical consequences of their stupidity and their eventual higher insurance rates should help to keep pace lower.

Tanya Ambrose,  
Mississauga, Ont.

I am concerned to hear on Sept. 1 that British's interest in broadening police surveillance to include observation at the "local logical use" of phone radar. In a move to extract real profits from traffic policing, cops are profiling the notion that speed alone, and

not factors such as alcohol or just plain stupid driving, kills people. Underlying police radar is the Orwellian captivism. The best defense is to clap the courts by every means to render the system unwieldy and unworkable. If the police send me a photo of my car speeding, I'll send them a photo of the money.

Dr. Franklin Kennedy,  
Kingston, Ont.

I received a speeding ticket in Calgary by photo radar. No matter what excuse I had for speeding, that was, I was off-boarding. I was driving at 100 km/h in a 90 km/h zone, rather than wasting the time and energy of the courts.

Colin McMillan,  
St. John, Alta.

## 'Local coverage'

I was pleasantly surprised by your Aug. 15 edition to find not just one, but two articles featuring my home province ("The under part," Books, and "Catching the wave," Canada). Surely I do find such local coverage that is not about police and driver radar. I was not surprised, however, to find a touch of ignorance towards my province in both articles. It was nice to see author/s under Lesley Choice in "Cool" Harbour. The funny thing is that I had never entered any club and never around this area. And while we have those Northerners who refer to the day as being "large" or "great," in Cole Harbour, we generally use terms such as "huge," "in over" or "beautiful."

Sue Greenworth,  
Cole Harbour, N.S.

*Allyson's column reader's* note: The letters may be added to your and clearly. Please attach your return and address telephone number. Please, letters to the Editor: Maclean's, 177 Bay St., Toronto, Ont. M5H 3K2. Tel: (416) 924-1111. Fax: (416) 924-1111.

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## WADJIAN 15 SEPTEMBER 1994 3





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COVER

# The Private PARIZEAU

How history shaped the man who seeks Quebec independence

BY BARRY CAHILL

His image is slightly askew, not quite right for Jacques Parizeau. The provincial leader of the Parti Québécois, renowned for his public persona, is casually perched atop a stool, the long-legged variety usually found in dining parlors. His trademark tightly buttoned-in tie remains replaced by a bright red one. And there is a broad grin beneath his leading mustache as he follows the progress of a finger snapping, heart-tapping young woman who dances a tango in ever-tightening circles around him. Most startling yet, the girl stays firmly in place when Parizeau, once described by his own wife as "the most serious man" she had ever known, deftly fields irrelevant questions about his daily life from an audience even younger than the dancer. He barely admits that he knows nothing of tango, bounces smartly steps for his own pleasure and never buys liquor refills. He also lets slip the name he acquires on joining the Big Screen. It was, he says with a haunting laugh, "Délicieuse Pélopie"—Evelyn Miaw.

The revolution delighted Parizeau's audience, a youthful crowd gathered last week at the Montreal studios of MusiquePlus, Quebec's widely popular rock video TV network, to lightly grill the PQ leader. When it was all over, the youngsters were pleased by the performance they had witnessed—but not as pleased as with Parizeau himself. As Quebec's election campaign heated into the final



Parizeau and  
Lévesque  
a new ally, a new  
image

days in the Sept. 15 vote, it was becoming increasingly apparent that the man who'd brought the PQ to the polls was suddenly being tested. As many hoped, a new, more relaxed Parizeau is emerging, one who is once prepared to occasion to purchase his own non-loyalty reputation in the sphere of opposition politics.

There is a neat mystery about the reason why. "He's exhausted," says Daniel Péliss, PQ candidate in the suburban Montreal riding of Tremont and a close associate of Parizeau for the past 25 years. "He's so close to the goal now that the real man behind the most public person is finally beginning to show." Parizeau, in short, has caught the scent of victory. With only days to go before the province's voters go to the polls, there were previous few signs pointing to anything other than a comfortable win for Quebec's separatists. Parizeau cleared what may well turn out to have been the final hurdle on that path last week when he emerged relatively unscathed from a televised encounter with Liberal Leader Jean Charest. While the *Playboy* checklist may not have won the old-timer TV debate, he did not lose a rider. And that consoled the lead that the PQ has enjoyed in every public opinion poll since the campaign began on July 24 (a survey at week's end showed the party with 48 per cent support, comfortably ahead of the Liberals with 42 per cent).

Candidates, as a result, face a dispiriting prospect when the votes are counted next week. Facing a major shift in public sentiment between now and election day, the most governments of Quebec will have to deal with is the Parti Québécois and not the choice of a new government, not a new constitution, the question of independence with which Parizeau has been so long associated. To be sure, Quebec's voters do not see the situation in that light. It is the province and its autonomy are at issue. "When I learned the vote at Windsor Station in Montreal, I was relieved," he has recounted many times. "When I got all the votes in front of me, I was surprised."

Parizeau has remained true to these principles over time, a remarkable record of consistency given the volatility through which Quebec politics has passed in the intervening years. For those who knew Parizeau's background, however, the man's bolding resolve is not surprising. Jacques comes by his credentials honestly," says Claude Marra, who worked alongside Parizeau when both were key government technocrats in Jean Lesage's Quiet Revolution government in the 1960s, and who also had joined Parizeau as an influential member of René Lévesque's first Parti Québécois cabinet in 1976. "He is a rigorous intellectual who comes from a long line of rigorous intellectuals."

Parizeau was born 58 years ago, on Aug. 8, 1930, the second of three sons of Gérard Parizeau and Clémence Davis, then grandchild, Denise, acquired a fortune in the lumber business, founded Montreal's "Maison Mailland," a retail chain of high-end clothing stores, and was a member of the board of directors of the 1976-77 Olympic Games. After graduating from government, he studied economics at both Ottawa and Quebec City. During his time in government, Parizeau acquired an intimate knowledge of Parizeau and his methods. He is not encouraged by what he knows. "There was a time when Parizeau had a sound grasp of economics," he says. "But his politics clouded his vision. Now, he's someone with no sympathy at all for Canada. And as far as Quebec is concerned, the situation is true because, it seems certain that Parizeau is going to be elected, but it also seems just as certain that he is going to lose his referendum. So at the end of the day, what are we left with? A government in Quebec led by a dispirited autocrat. I can't think of a better formula for failure."

Parizeau has been a thorn in the side of federalism for a quarter of a century, ever since he took his now-famous train ride across the country, the event that he often refers to as his own personal "Revelation." He has been a vocal critic of the 1981-82 period economic adviser to then premier David Johnson Sr., had been invited to deliver a paper on the future of Canada to a conference in Banff, Alta. Parizeau booked a compartment on Canadian Pacific's Transcontinental, thinking to spend the three-day journey composing his thoughts. But as the train rolled westward, he gradually concluded that Quebec and Canada were heading down an economic dead-end street. The remedy for Canada's ills, Parizeau realized, lay in constitutional, economic and political powers under federal control. He was the solution for Quebec required a decent modification of federalism to his government flourish as a distinct society in its own right. By the end, he was on his way out of the system, but the rest of the train was not.

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## DIARY OF A CAMPAIGN

July 24: Jean Charest, Liberal leader, calls a provincial election for Sept. 15.

July 27: Jean Charest and Parti Québécois leader Jacques Parizeau agree over the rest of September. Jean Charest would lose \$8 billion if it pulled out of cash-shed programs with Blaise, Parizeau puts the figure at no more than \$281 million.

July 25 to 27: Lévesque and Parizeau. PQ 55.6 per cent. Liberals 42.7 per cent.

Aug. 2: Blue Quebecers leader Lucien Bouchard enters the campaign and is promptly criticized for contradicting official PQ analysis. Bouchard says he disagrees with PQ plans to pass a resolution in the National Assembly affirming the will of Quebecers to separate. Such affirmation, he adds, can only come through a referendum.

Aug. 5 to 8: Lévesque and Parizeau. PQ 56.4 per cent. Liberals 41 per cent.

Aug. 10: Jean Charest's resignation that a PQ government would mean economic ruin for Quebec. Parizeau calls for a new federal election. Parizeau calls for a new federal election. Parizeau calls for a new federal election.

Aug. 19 to 21: Lévesque and Parizeau. PQ 59.3 per cent. Liberals 44.5 per cent.

Aug. 25: Jean Charest and Parizeau agree over the rest of September. Jean Charest would lose \$8 billion if it pulled out of cash-shed programs with Blaise, Parizeau puts the figure at no more than \$281 million.

Aug. 28 to Sept. 2: Lévesque and Parizeau. PQ 59.3 per cent. Liberals 44.5 per cent.

HACCIANS/SEPTEMBER 12, 1994 15

Chairman of Commerce in 1981 and served for a time as a member of the provincial legislature. His grandfather, Telephore, was a prominent Montreal surgeon who rose to become dean of the medical faculty at the University of Montreal. His father, Gerald, built an empire in the insurance business, founding a number of companies that were reorganized in 1972 into the giant holding company Sotradeco Inc. When Gerald died last January, at the age of 94, Sotradeco was the 11th largest insurance broker in the world, an enterprise with annual revenues approaching \$100 million, and premium volume of \$4 billion and 1,400 employees. Sotradeco's younger brother, Robert, is president and chairman of the board of Sotradeco.

Jacques himself, however, holds no shares in Sotradeco, the result of a dispute laid down by his father. There has never been an adequate public explanation of why Patrice was driven out of the family business. But it has given rise to persistent rumors, widely circulated among Quebec's overlapping business and political circles, that Gerald's falling out is something of a black sheep in his family. Whatever the accuracy of the rumors, it is true that both Patrice's parents were not entirely cut in the conventional bourgeois mold of Outremont, the leafy enclave on Mount Royal's northern slope that is the traditional home of Montreal's French-speaking upper class.

Patrice's mother, Germaine, for example, worked tirelessly alongside social activist Thérèse Casgrain in Quebec's women's rights movement. During the Second World War, she was awarded the Order of the British Empire for her volunteer activities on the home front. Similarly, Gerald established a reputation outside of his business as a teacher and author. He taught history at the University of Montreal's prestigious École des hautes études commerciales, better known by its acronym HEC. And he wrote five books, including a 1973 memoir entitled *Jeux et Services* of a Montrealer. In that memoir, the elder Patrice dropped a revealing hint about the early influence that shaped Jacques's personality. "We had wanted [our sons] to be leaders," he wrote. "And we did everything in our power to organize them for that role."

Like all good Outremont families of the period, the Patrices sent their boys to English kindergarten and English grammar camp. Unlike most of the francophone elite, however, Jacques and his brothers did not go to a traditional classical college. They were sent instead to Outremont's newly established Collège Stasius, largely to escape the clutches of the clerics who ran the classical colleges. On graduation, at the early age of 17, 18, or 19, the Patrice boys and their friends went to 1910, where he majored in economics. His most formative years, however, were spent in Outremont. First in Paris at the Institut d'études politiques and then at the London School of Economics, where he earned a doctorate under the guidance of the renowned economist and Nobel laureate John Maynard Keynes.

It is this day, Patrice claims the unlikely travels of his London journey. A well-connected anglophile, he developed a taste for British literature, British dignitaries, Scotch whiskey and the clubs. The Bordeaux stars that the British previously ignored and whose habits remained with him until very recently, when his 70 handlers and his new wife, Lucette Lapointe, decided that his public image required a makeover in the interests of credibility. The three-epoch British campaigns were abandoned, in were the cigarettes and—in public at least—the alcohol.

Patrice, though, retains his yearning for the most things English. "I adored London," he told an interviewer recently, re-

calling how the name close to retaining personal loyalty in the British capital used "a sense of moral debt" obliged him to return to HEC as an economics lecturer. Rolfed Paré, another of the Grand Montréal's bright young technocrats, vividly recalls teaching alongside Patrice in the late 1960s. "He was younger than most of us but he dressed like an older man, as the best British tradition," says Paré, now retired. "The rest of us wore jeans and sweaters to class. Jacques always wore a suit and tie."

There were other, more profound lapses, as Patrice pointed out during a 1988 interview with *l'Express*. "When I came back to this country in 1955, it was to a very peculiar kind of Quebec, where there were adversities with respect to the Anglo-Saxon world," he said. "Quebecers felt that they were not paid enough when it came to business or technology. But coming from England, I did not feel inferior in any way and I could not give a damn about those notions."

The remark is telling, an admission at least one of the politicians that gave rise to the self-confidence that has always been both Patrice's main strength and, paradoxically, his principal drawback. "He can be overbearing to the point of arrogance," says Tory Senator Rob Bolduc, yet another of the quiet young men who played such a large role in Quebec's Quiet Revolution. Despite his recognition about Patrice's present role, Bolduc remembers him with fondness. "He was so



young, so eager, so full of himself," says Bolduc. "He would always be making little coherent speeches with the most incredible new discovery, discovering as he went the premier immediately. He was always as tall, but the impression made him an elite being."

For some, it also made him arrogant. Patrice's first wife, the Polish-born novelist Alice Potansko, resented in a memoir published shortly after her death in 1990 her first meeting with the man she would remain married to for 35 years and who would father their two children. Isabelle, now a 35-year-old Montreal lawyer, and Bernard, 36, a physician in the same city. "He was tall, very thin, very reserved, very polite at his manner," she wrote of the encounter that took place in 1955. "We spoke the same language but we did not agree about anything." Despite the differences, however, the two were married six months after they met.

After Patrice's marriage, A. Rouss, like the owner of the veil on another aspect of her husband. It is a haunting tale, written as the novelist did a slow

## I am sovereigntist before, during and after the election'



death in the couple's redbrick home on Avenue Masson in Outremont. Throughout the revolution, Patrice is fondly referred to as "Jack." He is portrayed as a gentle, courteous man, almost an aristocrat by his wife's twenty-year battle with lung cancer as she in turn, intriguingly, this private period overlaid with a time when the public Patrice appeared to be in danger of losing his grip on the PQ leadership. He was never attacked from any quarters, accused of inept policies that cost both him and his party at a late night. There were even moments, particularly after lunch when Patrice would share for services of the *National Assembly* particularly close to retirement.

The longer narrative is fascinating in another sense. It recounts some of the dark rumors that have occasionally dogged Patrice's career. During his years in one of the most powerful positions of Lapointe's government, when he was both finance minister as well as Treasury Board president, he acquired a reputation as a womanizer. The charges gained credence after the publication in 1983 of a book by Carole Devault, who played a double role as a police informant within the terrorist ranks of the Front de libération du Québec in the early 1970s. In *Tout Me Paraît*, later published in English as *The Informer*, Carole Devault, now known as St-Jerome, Devault claimed that she and Patrice spent "days together as lovers in Montreal, Ottawa and Toronto" after the two met around 1969. "He was older than me, and he was married," Devault gushily wrote. "But that did not seem important. He was so much more sophisticated, so much more experienced. And how I admired his intelligence, his knowledge of the world." Patrice's only comment at the time: "I haven't met the book."

His wife's lingering death doubt about Patrice, but friends have said he seems to be a

member of commerce near Quebec City. Like Lucette Lapointe, Marcel is a divorcee with two children, but the similarities end there. While Lapointe has been married to a politician, Marcel has been married to a businessman, Billie Charles. Marcel does not appear publicly to exercise much political influence.

Lapointe, in contrast, is very much in the picture in a political sense. She may well, in fact, be largely responsible for the new, more visible image of Patrice that emerged during the campaign. The two first met in 1975 when Lucette was handling party media relations in Patrice's *Assemblée nationale* campaign in Montreal. But the relationship did not grow serious until two years ago, after the death of Alice Patrice and after Lucette's divorce was finalized. "It began in the characteristically straightforward manner that Quebecers usually everything that Patrice does, always invited Lucette to dinner at a Montreal restaurant, ostensibly to discuss political matters. Patrice suddenly showed up the table. An Lucette recently told *l'Express* magazine: "I liked me."

Madame Lapointe did not have a civil in his job? A few months later they were married. Patrice's record as a civil servant and politician has been impressive, but decidedly mixed. When he was one of the Quiet Revolution's technocrats, he played a key role in the nationalization of Quebec's private electricity companies that led eventually to the creation of Hydro-Québec. During his time as Lapointe's economic aide, he implemented a number of innovations among the most important being the creation in 1979 of the Quebec Stock Exchange, which gave him credits for local investing, sparking the sudden boom in the thousands of middle-sized businesses across the province.

At the same time, however, there were accusations the fiduciary. Among the most damaging for Quebec



Patrice with Pius  
Students at a  
conference in 1982,  
Daniel Johnson  
meeting voters  
with wife  
Suzanne Harrell (left).  
Also Patrice (right).  
"He is a rigorous  
intellectual who  
comes from a long  
line of rigorists  
intellectuals"





**COVER** the argument made by Liberal Liberals who say that, like it or not, a 19<sup>th</sup> government would have to adopt a pragmatic tone in its relations with the rest of Canada. "You cannot just cut all ties," said an adviser to a senior minister. "You cannot just come in as a new government and say, 'No trade, no trade.'"

Some optimistic federalists even argue that there may be unexpected beneficiaries. For one, due to that Bushnell's Blue Quincents would no longer be free to spend all their time attacking the federal libelists, they will be forced to spend more time attacking the press. Another is that the bushnellized spotlight on President no premier may further highlight differences between himself and Bushnell. In fact, one of the most unexpected aspects of the provincial campaign is that Bushnell, although once considered the most popular politician, has appeared curiously diminished. The han deliberately played a secondary role to Patawa and has speeches have received less and less attention. In the campaign han promises:

Similar to the MIs, faced with declining support for sovereignty in the polls, appear to be developing a new attraction for life in the House of Commons. As recently as last month, Bloc officials were insisting that their 33 MPs would resign en masse if sovereignty was defeated in a referendum. But at their caucus meeting last week, they were swiftly and publicly backpedaling from that promise. Instead, they said, as much as they there would be a continuing need to defend Quebec's interests.

And finally, concerns over Quebec provided a new group of allies for the federal government in one of the most unlikely of sources (the provinces). Traditionally, the annual conference has been dominated by Ottawa-bashing, complaints of federal government abuses of its powers and spending cuts. But this time, the provinces demonstrated the efficacy of federalism, stayed away from all that, instead, their most significant reproach to Ottawa came in the limited form of creating a new administrative support structure to co-ordinate dealings between the provinces and Ottawa. "We are here to show that federalism works, and to make it work even more efficiently," said Ontario Premier Bob Rae, host of the conference. "We're showing that it's worth it—money it does not cost the result of creating a DG government."

## HAVING IT BOTH WAYS

**B**efore the 1992 referendum on the Charter of Rights and Freedoms, Bloc Québécois leader Lucien Bouchard and Jacques Par

ments of the Parti Québécois assured Quebecers that they would not treat a No vote as an endorsement of sovereignty. As soon as the referendum was over, both leaders did precisely that—even though the list of No voters included such supposedly well-known sovereigntists as Pierre Trudeau and members of his cabinet, including Jeanne Sauvé. In the federal election campaign

**Bouchard (left), Parliament's president for seeing one thing and doing another**

## BACKSTAGE OTTAWA

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Journal of Internal Medicine 247: 101–108

and should hold a referendum, with a next, meaningful question on sovereignty. On the other hand, the outcome appears to be the same PQ members—and not yet decided by Dumas—that the referendum will be held in the autumn of this year, as the referendum is now considered a fait accompli. Some have already said that the PQ's referendum goal is a "rehearsal" for the referendum, much like the Sheslay Cup final that took place last under several different flags. Four straight federations, however, by one sovereignty win would constitute an unbroken, permanent win for the latter.

What Mr. McCain does (he has) leave after sovereignty referendum? Boscardin's answer appears clear: he is the pro-moral, most popular politician and would inevitably be bound to lead it—sooner rather than later, and regardless of whether Gore is in a province or a republic. Until last week, the future of his 52 seats seems equally clear: they said they would resign their seats shortly after a referendum, whatever the result. Now, to the amazement of no one who follows politics closely, some of those MPs are rethinking that option as it becomes clear: After their exit, the party would have no MP in Ottawa, which they would stay on in Ottawa at the point of a referendum defeat.

Is that legitimate? Yes, if you believe that all governments are entitled to democratic representation in the country's only democratic national election. Yes, if you believe that politicians who make commitments should abide by them. So, in the great Canadian spirit of compromise, the answer to the question of a 30-second lobby likely to be successful is: "It depends on the politician." Will anyone other than those who are in or on the fence, of course, in light of this underlining, for anyone to suggest that Elie M. Gillet-Ducasse was being hypocritical when he suggested that Prime Minister Jean Chrétien would have to resign immediately in the event of a 30-second lobby? In the meantime, expect them to reject any suggestion in the wake of a 70 who find it represents nothing more significant than the right and desire of Quebecers and the other Canadians recently, in those few moments before the vote, to be heard.

being dropping saw last October's index, which, with a 1.5% increase, was the first drop through out the period.

What mandate will the Pq have after 12 years? Certainly, it will be a referendum with a decision on sovereignty and taxation expressed by the voters—and not yet decided that the early march on the first day of the new century, 1999, is already suggested by the first two letters of the word like the Statue of Liberty under some night-lit federal seal. The referendum was well thought out, permanent victory.

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[14] P. J. Davis and I. W. Stewart, *IMA Bulletin*, 1994, vol. 32, no. 1, pp. 1–10.

# BEING ON CANADA



he keeps the economic forecast neatly typed on a small piece of lined card. And whenever Parti Québécois leader Jacques Parizeau is pressed to counter arguments that an independent Québec would be financially moribund, he quickly pulls it out of his vest pocket. With a slight smile, he reads a quote from an analyst at the prestigious New York City-based investment advisory firm *Investment Research Institute* who claims that Québec's economy would eventually return to normal following independence. But what Parizeau ruminates is, says "to maintain that business class and the public concludes that if Québec were to separate, the province's economy would suffer as short-term borrowing costs soared, and that Québec's best economic option, by far, is to remain in Canada." Says Peter Plant, the report's author and senior head analyst at *Strategic*, "Québec is vulnerable to substantial political uncertainty."

But for now, the international investment community is betting that opinion polls predicting that Québec voters will ultimately reject sovereignty as a referendum are correct. In fact, despite the initial flurry of investor uncertainty that will likely follow the Québec election, they are telling their clients to continue buying Canadian bonds and equities. Their reasoning: Canada's economy is growing rapidly again, and once the short-term share price gyrations in the market for Canadian bonds will only and pull equities along for the ride. International analysts like Plant appear to be basing such relatively benign assessments on history. As in previous constitutional debates, including the collapse of the Meech Lake accord in 1990, they believe the latest round of tensions in Québec will quickly fade away. In the end, says Douglas Johnson, senior international investment strategist at Merrill Lynch & Co. in New York, Québecers will opt for jobs over political turmoil and high interest rates.

Investors are also banking on the underlying strength of the Canadian economy to offset any doubts raised by the election of the Parti Québécois. And some investors are afraid that weak numbers to support their assumption. According to Statistics Canada, the economy clocked ahead of a 0.4 percent annual rate to the second quarter of this year—the fastest pace of economic growth since late 1990. That growth was all the more remarkable because Canadian inflation rate is running at less than one per cent annually. Even Canada's beleaguered dollar, a barometer of how foreign investors view Canada's political and economic climate, dropped a positive forecast last week, as it climbed over 33 cents (U.S.)

## International investors say tensions will quickly fade



In fact, the international community has fully discounted the outcome of the Québec election already. The spread between 30-year U.S. and Canadian bonds, which reached 200 basis points in June, has since dropped back to about 154 basis points. Karra Bista, Merrill's vice president in charge of international analysis, noted that the spread is "the same as it was before." Canada's low-inflation, high-growth economy is attracting international investors. "The Canadian dollar will stabilize and strengthen," said Bista.

The uncertainty over the Québec question is being further offset by the growing perception that such strong economic growth combined with recent federal and provincial budget restraint measures will eventually bring Canada's debt burden under control. As well, continued economic growth could improve employment and re-

store Ottawa's revenue flow from taxes over the next two years.

As well, some foreign analysts even suggest that the Québec election will actually be positive for Canada's equity markets. Johnson told non-national investors before last Canadian elections, which are now coming out of the recession, will continue to post strong earnings in 1995 and 1996. And, once the election is out of the way, Johnson said that bond prices will rally and

Traders at the New York Stock Exchange. Québec is vulnerable

the companies' shares. The Toronto Stock Exchange, he added, could even surpass the American market in 1995.

Canada's past performance is any indication of the future, Canada's free income and equity markets will quickly shake off any surprise coming out of the election. "The Canadian dollar is not going to be a problem," said Bista. "The Canadian economy is not in any danger of a recession. It is a strong, solid, self-sufficient market, which recovered virtually all of the damage within three months. The same report also said that economic uncertainty will "create a number of great opportunities to buy the Canadian market as they do in a sell off," but despite the ongoing debate over Québec, buying into the Canadian market appears to be just what many international investors intend to do.

YOUNG PERNELL



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# A holy war over holidays

*A lawsuit launched by Ottawa Muslims could set a precedent for public schools*

**L**ike Muslims in other young towns across Ontario, the Jewish community in Ottawa is not happy about the school year's start. The Jewish New Year—Rosh Hashanah, which is one of many in Ottawa's Islamic community who are angry that the board has refused to consider extending them a similar courtesy by closing schools for two Muslim holy days. "It's not fair," says Bassoon, a Grade 10 student at suburban Woodfield High School, who says the traditional Islamic fast near the holy "I have to miss school for my holy days and the Jewish kids don't. You cannot have a fair one group and not the other."

The Islamic Schools Federation of Ontario, which represents independent Muslim schools, agrees with the rate teenager. In July, the federation launched a lawsuit against the Ottawa Board of Education alleging that the rights of Muslims to freedom of conscience and religion under the Charter of Rights have been undermined by the board's actions. The lawsuit, which is scheduled to be heard on Oct. 25 by the Ontario Court General Division, argues that schools with significant numbers of Muslim students—according to the federation, there are 2,236 students of Muslim faith in Ottawa's public schools, composed with about 410 Jews—should be required to observe two important Islamic holidays. Whether the lower court decides, ruling is expected to be appealed, possibly all the way to the Supreme Court of Canada. In that event, the Ottawa case could eventually determine whether the Charter forces public school boards across Canada to treat all religions identically.

The dispute began in April, when the Ottawa board agreed to what seemed at the time to be a modest request from Ottawa's Jewish community—to delay the start of the school year so that Jewish students could observe Rosh Hashanah without missing the entire first two days of school (last year, only the Christian holidays of Christmas and Good Friday have been observed by public schools, meaning that students of other religions have been forced to miss a day of school in order to observe their own holy days). According to Jewish community leader Ron Shiner, the request was relatively reasonable, because it did not mean a per-

sonal change in the school year; the Jewish calendar is based on the cycles of the moon, and Rosh Hashanah could fall on any day of school, only once every 40 years. (Shiner says: "This is an extremely rare occurrence that happens once in a century.") The board, however, refused to agree, but not to Ottawa's 10,000-strong Muslim community, which threatened legal action unless the decision was reversed or Muslims accommodated by the closing of schools on one of their holy days. At the end of November, on May 11, which coincides with the annual pilgrimage to Mecca,

most public school boards across the country have agreed to close schools for the Muslim holy days.

... **Conflict.** The Islamic Schools Federation of Ontario, which is not a religious group, but has been successful in getting that time request for a complete delay to the school year was far less than the Muslim demand for two or more permanent school holidays each year. "The same," however, two other recognized religious groups, Christian and Jewish, and the rejection of another, Muslim.



*Assoumy: "I have to miss school for my holy days and the Jewish kids don't."*

Seven other public boards in Ontario agreed to delay the school year, although the Irish-based Carleton board did not. The Islamic Federation notes Ottawa as a test case, believing that a victory there would set a precedent all across the country.

Clearly social tensions created by a newly assertive Muslim community is not a problem limited to Ottawa. Since the Second World War, the explosion of immigration from such countries as Lebanon, Syria and northern India has pushed Canada's Muslim population to almost 300,000, with an unprecedented 150-per-cent increase between 1981 and 1991. "They now have the good old-fashioned clout of numbers," says Ebrahim Wazir, a professor of religious studies at the University of Alberta. He predicts that, like other majority communities, Muslims will increasingly use the Charter to fight

that. Shiner says the goals of Ottawa Muslims are not so drastic: "If they just want holidays as a matter of fact, it's a legal matter that to threaten legal action unless the holiday is taken away from the Jews." The Jewish community deliberately brought for this past, Ted Best, a school board member for 22 years, is fed up with the rivalry between the two communities. "We're fighting the Middle East over here," he says. Those involved in the dispute recognize that, if taken to its logical extreme, the rapid growth of Canada's Muslim, Pakistani, Hindu and Sikh communities could lead to a school year with as many as 15 religious holidays. On their own, however, they are not a threat to the secular system. "And one that is extremely multicultural society will be unable to avoid

LEGAL PERSPECTIVE in Ottawa

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# IT'S ABOUT TIME.

CBC PRIME TIME NEWS MOVES TO 10PM, SEPTEMBER 6

(10:30 PM in Newfoundland)

## THE RIGHT TO UNDERSTAND

The Supreme Court of Canada ruled that all Canadians facing criminal charges whose mother tongue is neither English nor French have a right to continuous, accurate interpretation of court proceedings in their first language. The ruling stemmed from a case in which a Vietnamese-born man convicted of sexual assault in Nova Scotia in 1991 received only short summaries of his testimony during a key part of his trial, rather than full and simultaneous translation. The Supreme Court, stating that the man's constitutional rights had been violated, quashed his conviction and ordered a new trial.

## BETTER OFF DEAD

A report commissioned by Imperial Tobacco Ltd. concluded that tobacco-related deaths are an economic benefit because cigarettes kill people before they become a burden to the health care system. "Smoking groups never consider the reduction in health costs resulting from cigarettes," said Barbara Pearson, director of economic development for the tobacco company. Jean-Pierre Vitaro, a spokesman for Imperial Tobacco, said that the report was never intended to be made public and that the company does not necessarily share Vitaro's views.

## COSTLY RACISM

In the largest settlement of its kind in Canada, Ontario agreed to pay \$208,000 to an Aboriginal civil servant who had filed a complaint of racism after she lost her job as a federal program officer in Regina in 1989. Mary Fitzpatrick, a 54-year-old Ojibwa-Potawatomi, won the settlement two months after the Federal Court ordered that she be reinstated.

## HIP TO HEMP

British Columbia Reform MP Jim Goss told a cheering crowd at about 1,000 marijuana smokers at Hampton Hall in Sooke, B.C., that he favored legalizing the drug—as long as it was possible to test pot-smoking drivers for impairment. The Reform party, which takes a strong law-and-order position on most justice issues, has no official position on legalizing marijuana.

## LOOKOUT DELAYED

NHL training camps opened as scheduled after commissioner Gary Bettman postponed a threatened lockout of NHL players while labor talks between owners and the players' union continued. It is now expected that Bettman will wait until Oct. 5, the opening day of the fall season, to renege with the lockout if the parties still have not agreed on a new contract.

# Canada NOTES

## New twists in a spy scandal

It was the latest strange twist in an increasingly bizarre saga. On Friday, Sept. 5, CSE officers seized with a warrant under the 1984 Access to Information Act a collection of files of CTV News. The police demanded videotapes and notes from an Aug. 25 interview between Brian McKenna, an aide to former Tory advisor general Doug Lewis, and that interviewer. McKenna admitted looking a document to The Toronto Star indicating that the Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS) had received information from one of its own informants within the Toronto-based neo-Nazi group the *Reformers Front* about inquiries by CSE into links between the *Reformers Front* and Canadian politicians, including the late Senator Jean-Jacques Gauthier, and that the group had allegedly paid bribes to *Reformers Front* members on the *Reformers Front*—and that Brislone, in turn, had tried to gather intelligence on everything from the Reform party to at least one of the country's national Jewish organizations.



Just as earlier RCMP raids on McKenna's papers

The Toronto Star and The Toronto Sun had been rebuffed. CTV News refused to hand over any material on the police. As the saga went on, various party leaders were warning that the authorities seemed more intent on proving that the Official Secrets Act had been breached than in determining whether CSIS had anything wrong. "We'd like to be assured that equal effort is being made to see whether CSIS actually violated our civil rights, or anyone else's, and whether there were political connections."

Meanwhile, Solicitor General Herb Gray used the Toronto police force to aggressively investigate allegations that Brislone had been shown *Reformers Front* documents by a senior member of the *Reformers Front*. Derek Lee, chairman of the House of Commons Select Committee on Security Committee, announced that hearings would begin into the Brislone affair on Sept. 13—and that the committee may consider other *Reformers Front* cases. The alleged informant, who has since been killed, is now

## Uproar on implants

Canadian women who have suffered side effects from silicone-gel breast implants, complained that they were shortchanged after an American judge issued his ruling on the largest single product liability settlement in American history. U.S. District Judge Sam Pomeroy awarded the amount of money available to foreign claimants—including Canadians—to \$86.6 million, from \$81 million. But that still represents only a fraction of the over \$4.25-billion paid between women and their companies in 1991. As a result, it is estimated that American women will be eligible for between \$500,000 and more than \$1 million in compensation, while foreign women can expect a maximum of about \$3,000 each. Such amounts are "disappointing and dispiriting," said Joyce Atlas, a 45-year-old Toronto woman who had a breast implant in 1980, and who says she has suffered rheumatoid arthritis and symptoms of lupus

and has had a hysterectomy because of the device. "It's like taking a toothpick from a tree."

Pomeroy's ruling opened the way for a court-appointed body to begin determining who is eligible for compensation. More than 90,000 women have so far applied. Claimants have until Oct. 17 to file their medical records. If they display symptoms at the 10 diseases covered by the deal, they will be compensated.

## One chagrined cop

Edmonton police Chief Doug McNulty paid a 900-wording time after being spotted by one of his own force's photo radar cameras driving 66 km/h in a 50-km/h zone. "I'm a little chagrined and very embarrassed," said McNulty. "I've made a mistake and I've learned my lesson." Edmonton police were sharply criticized last year when they issued a *Lightbulb's* traffic and introduced photo radar cameras, which automatically take pictures of the license plates of speeding cars. The Toronto Police force began using photo radar as highways near Toronto in August.





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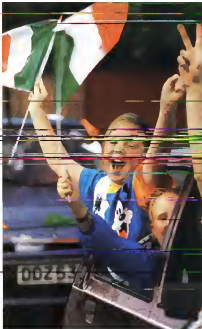
# DOWNING ARMS

Will an IRA ceasefire bring peace—or more war?

The jagged scars in Northern Ireland last week had little to do with battle, explosion, or violence. Instead, they were the ragged edges of a ceasefire. All was relatively quiet on the paramilitary front. The Irish Republican Army had agreed to a ceasefire, and, for the first time since the "troubles" began 25 years ago, there was a genuine prospect of peace in the island.

There, the euphoria was muted. After the IRA issued its much anticipated ceasefire statement, there was a bit of flag waving on Belfast streets and Irish Foreign Minister Dick Spring declared a "historic opportunity to take the gun out of Irish politics forever." The British government was more circumspect, at least in public. Prime Minister John Major claimed to want even specific assurances that the ceasefire marked a permanent end to violence. But having come thus far in private negotiations, through a ceasefire with Sinn Féin, the British government was unlikely to hold the process now over a matter of semantics. Most participants expect peace discussions involving Sinn Féin to begin by year's end.

The biggest obstacle may come from hardliners in the worried and bitter Protestant, Anglican community of Northern Ireland. Many of its in-



Celebrating in Belfast: Years that Loyalist gunboats will provoke a backlash

res feared that their place in the United Kingdom might be jeopardized again. And some, like the hellfire priest Ian Paisley, predicted that the result of last week's move could be civil war. "I don't see any renunciation of violence," he thundered. "I hear the salute to surrender." The loyalist community's own squandrels showed anger at this conventional war: the nationalist Ulster Protestant Patriots shot and killed a Catholic man in Belfast on the first day of the ceasefire, giving credence to fears that Protestant paramilitary groups would try to promote the IRA into relations that would scuttle the peace process.

That was the darkest scenario, but it was clear that a ceasefire was, at best, a baby step on the road to a lasting peace. There is a seductive tendency to believe that, because reconciliation has come to more enemies in South Africa and the Middle East, a solution to Northern Ireland's conflict could also be around the corner. But the province's seemingly intractable political puzzle remains in place: a Protestant majority eager to remain a part of the United Kingdom, a Catholic minority, most of whom wish to unite with the Republic of Ireland in the north, paramilitary groups on both sides, and a paramilitary with levers. Finding a formula for a lasting peace has barely been addressed. The British government insists that Northern Ireland's status can change only with the consent of all parties, while Republicans insist any Protestant vote on ending partition.

Even getting the IRA this far has been difficult. Adams and the current Sinn Féin leaders owe their ascendancy in the movement to the failure of a 1975 six counties, which lasted less than one month and discredited a generation of republican leaders. The intervening years were marked by horrific terrorism and political sterility. But in the past two years, there has been some modification. It has been head-on, not hidden. Sinn Féin leaders, now sources familiar with the movement, began to acknowledge two things: that the Ulster Protestants had more historic rights, and that the British could not be bombed out of the province. "I am 46 and have done 20 years on and off in jail," one IRA member recently tossed in a Dublin pub. "I have been shot at and had life or no family life. My son and daughter have now joined up, and I don't want them to have the life I have had if there's a better way. After 25 years, we have decided that the gun will no work."

In choosing to cease fire, the IRA was responding to an offer made last December by the British and Irish governments that granted Sinn Féin—as well as loyalist paramilitary organiza-

tions—a place at the negotiating table to obtain for a permanent end to violence. But the IRA was slow to respond, going as far as rejecting the offer after a year's ceasefire just one month ago. But in the following days, Adams did manage to secure a pledge from Sir Hugh Alexander, chief constable of the Royal Ulster Constabulary, that a prolonged ceasefire if it could be reached would give local army patrols in Catholic neighborhoods. Reports also suggest that Sinn Féin received private assurances from the British government the IRA prisoners may meet with early releases in order to give the IRA a ceasefire more agreed upon, although Major has denied that suggestion.

But such concessions were crucial to Adams in a move splitting the Republican movement over the ceasefire. There is a joke in Ireland that whenever the Irish get together to form a new organization, the first item on the agenda is to discuss a split. Irish history is littered with schemes in its self-styled sectarian infatigues, with compromise leading to further strife to form new militant wings. But Adams had reassured the IRA's rank-and-file that the new ceasefire was a necessary step to end the violence. Several high-profile IRA members in the past few days had been expelled from intensely sectarian Irish Republican Army units. In Joe Cahill, 74, a veteran of the decade of the 1970s campaigns, Cahill was granted a visa to visit the United States last week, where he explained the motives for a ceasefire to America's often disbelieving Irish backers.

That the U.S. government was willing to grant a visa to an avowed Irish Republican Army leader, the Clinton administration's desire to broker a resolution to the conflict. Two weeks ago, a delegation of Irish-American political, business and labor leaders visited Ireland and handed out a package of financial rewards and investment as a carrot for a ceasefire. But the same Irish belief that any new long-term Sinn Féin to the peace table is a mark of weakness. "I am not a member of the IRA," said one of the Ulster nationalists. "What deals have been done?" asked the disheveled Combined Loyalist Military Command, the umbrella of Protestant paramilitary groups. That suggestion worried the people of Northern Ireland, that, while they may look hopefully for peace, Ireland always seems to give these words of domestic

GRACE WALLACE  
MICHAEL KEANE in Dublin

## 25 YEARS OF TERROR

1970: Catholics in Northern Ireland demand a protest. Catholics have Protestants and the Catholic civil rights campaign against a violent backdrop.

1972: After British soldiers kill 13 Catholic warships in Londonderry on "Bloody Sunday," British imposed direct rule on the province.

1974: Year-long effort to gain amnesty collapses over promises of Protestant labor strikes.

1975: First IRA ceasefire ends after less than one month.



1981: Two Republican hunger strikers, including Sir Bobby Sands, die in prison. Sinn Féin gains support.

1984: IRA bombs British Tory Westminster at 10 Downing Street.

1986: British soldiers kill three IRA members in Dublin and a loyalist gunman kills three members of the far right. While British soldiers are killed, a known Irish nationalist and military top British army corporate.

1988: British soldiers kill three IRA members in Dublin and a loyalist gunman kills three members of the far right. While British soldiers are killed, a known Irish nationalist and military top British army corporate.

1989: British soldiers kill three IRA members in Dublin and a loyalist gunman kills three members of the far right. While British soldiers are killed, a known Irish nationalist and military top British army corporate.

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1992: British soldiers kill three IRA members in Dublin and a loyalist gunman kills three members of the far right. While British soldiers are killed, a known Irish nationalist and military top British army corporate.

1993: British soldiers kill three IRA members in Dublin and a loyalist gunman kills three members of the far right. While British soldiers are killed, a known Irish nationalist and military top British army corporate.

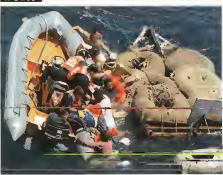
1994: British soldiers kill three IRA members in Dublin and a loyalist gunman kills three members of the far right. While British soldiers are killed, a known Irish nationalist and military top British army corporate.

1995: British soldiers kill three IRA members in Dublin and a loyalist gunman kills three members of the far right. While British soldiers are killed, a known Irish nationalist and military top British army corporate.

1996: British soldiers kill three IRA members in Dublin and a loyalist gunman kills three members of the far right. While British soldiers are killed, a known Irish nationalist and military top British army corporate.

1997: British soldiers kill three IRA members in Dublin and a loyalist gunman kills three members of the far right. While British soldiers are killed, a known Irish nationalist and military top British army corporate.

1998: British soldiers kill three IRA members in Dublin and a loyalist gunman kills three members of the far right. While British soldiers are killed, a known Irish nationalist and military top British army corporate.



U.S. Coast Guard rescues Cubans of sea; a debate over American immigration policy

## CUBA

## Dire straits

Refugees risk their lives to escape hard times

The storm clouds of the sea are not the only ones that threaten the lives of the refugees who are fleeing the island and seek to reach the shore, spread out around the coast.

—David Henington,  
The Old Man and the Sea

After a holiday laid because of bad weather, the crochets of Cubans returned last week with a vengeance: U.S. Coast Guard ships intercepted some 8,000 refugees sailing in the shadowed Straits of Florida, bringing the total to more than 20,000 since early August. The latest rescues set sail with no air or both agency and aid. Many others expressed fear that U.S. Cuban migration laws, which just ended in New York City on Sept. 1, would result in a surface clampdown on migration. And although Cuban authorities continued to turn a blind eye to illegal departures, many who intended to leave their children behind because political beauty embracing a new life on protesters leaving in numerous vessels.

At Cayman beach east of Havana—the fishing village chosen by Henington—thousands of Cubans hurriedly loaded to

proceed to the beach, where they were met by a small boat in a last-ditch bid for freedom. It was equipped for the previous 90-mile journey to Florida, many of them clearly understood the odds against success. Said one young man, "I have to make adjustments to live in a better life. I will have children and now I am taking them along. The separation is better than the risk."

Ironically, the freedom-seeking Cubans leaving Cuba last week were well aware that their goal was unattainable. Last month, U.S. President Bill Clinton, alarmed by the rising tide of refugees, resumed a 28-year-old policy of granting automatic asylum in Cuba to those fleeing Castro's Communist regime. Those joined up at sea by U.S. Coast Guard vessels are now routinely shipped to a miniature refugee camp at the U.S. naval base in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. Those lucky enough to reach the Florida coast are placed in a federal detention center south of Miami. Sorting the families of political exiles is a complex task. In 1990, Cuban political prisoners began a hunger strike in Havana last week to protest U.S. delays in granting their visas. They gathered near the U.S. Interest Section, Ameri-

can medical embassy, declaring that they would not eat until Washington heeded their wish for humanitarian requests. The hunger strike underscored a point that Castro has made repeatedly while refugees flooded out of the country: that Washington provoked the problem by refusing less than 10 per cent of the 20,000 emigration visas set aside annually for Cubans.

Indeed, at the New York City talks last week, Cuba's chief negotiator, Ricardo Alarín, argued that the root cause of the crisis was Washington's unyielding policy of denying visas to Cubans, including its crippling, 32-year-old economic embargo. "The only realistic solution is the ending of the present hostilities between the two countries, especially the lifting of the U.S. embargo," he said.

U.S. officials, however, refused to discuss the embargo, focusing instead on efforts to establish "legal, safe and orderly migration from Cuba to replace what is being coming, which is dangerous, chaotic and unsafe." To that end, the U.S. Coast Guard is now processing 10,000 Cuban refugees in separate camps. The U.S. Coast Guard is now processing 10,000 Cuban refugees in separate camps.

As the talks progressed, U.S. Coast Guard ships continued to intercept Cuban refugees. By the week's end, more than 17,000 Cubans were living in tent camps on the U.S. naval base in Guantanamo Bay. The U.S. Coast Guard is now processing 10,000 Cuban refugees in separate camps. The U.S. Coast Guard is now processing 10,000 Cuban refugees in separate camps.

For those young brothers in Havana, who were expecting their homemade radio before setting off for Florida, even the prospect of life in a refugee camp held more promise than Cuba's bleak realities. "There is nothing left for me here," said one Cuban refugee. "There are no jobs, there is not enough food." His sister, Elena, came to the U.S. because she was not enough food. "There are no jobs, there is not enough food." His sister, Elena, came to the U.S. because she was not enough food.

ANALYSIS BY JEFFREY M. HARRIS

## A LOOMING SHOWDOWN

Haiti's military regime rebuffed a UN envoy seeking to secure its departure and the return of ousted President Jean-Bertrand Aristide. The collapse of UN peace attempts came as six nations—Britain, Argentina, Jamaica, Trinidad, Barbados and Belize—agreed to supply troops for a U.S.-led rescue force of about 10,000 U.S. officials warned Haiti's military leaders that they would be seized and turned over to the new Ardele government for probable prosecution.

## A PUNITIVE AWARD

A former law secretary who obtained a lawyer from the world's largest law firm was awarded \$9.7 million for his role in the 1992-93 World War II. The award was given to the former law secretary who obtained a lawyer from the world's largest law firm was awarded \$9.7 million for his role in the 1992-93 World War II.

## MURDER IN SOMALIA

Somali gunmen killed three Indian doctors serving with the United Nations at a field hospital in Beledweyne. The doctors were killed and one wounded when Somali militiamen ambushed a convoy in southern Somalia.

## MAKING AMINDS

Prime Minister Toshiro Maruyama announced the establishment of a \$1.4-billion fund for cultural and economic projects across Asia as a token of apology for victims of Japan's aggression before 1945. The 16-year program is set to begin in 1995, the 50th anniversary of the end of the Second World War.

## ISRAEL CRACKS DOWN

An Israeli army court sentenced Ahmad Al-Khatib, a guerrilla leader linked to Kibbutz Yasser Arafat's Fatah group, to 15 years in prison for his role in the 1982-83 Intifada. The court also sentenced a soldier to 15 years in prison for his role in the 1982-83 Intifada.

## A PROFITABLE VISIT

U.S. Commerce Secretary Ross Perot led a delegation of 31 top executives to China, where they signed business deals worth more than \$1 billion. During Perot's visit, the first by a U.S. cabinet member since May 1991, Chinese leaders agreed to the link between China's most advanced cities and the U.S. and to human rights. China agreed to resume high-level human rights talks later this month.

## World NOTES



German soldiers singing Farewell Germany: leaving to friends

## Auf Wiedersehen!

Hundreds of Germans crowded the airport platform at Berlin's Tegel airport to see off their friends and family. The soldiers were leaving to join the German army in Bosnia. The soldiers were leaving to join the German army in Bosnia.

Some analysts say the costs could reach as high as \$10 billion. On top of the \$12 billion that the German government already agreed to pay Moscow for the troop withdrawal, it will be the costliest operation in history.

## An Arab boycott

Three Israeli governments refused to attend this month's controversial UN population conference in Cairo, Sudan, Lebanon and Saudi Arabia. The governments refused to attend this month's controversial UN population conference in Cairo, Sudan, Lebanon and Saudi Arabia.

# SUNG ALSO RISES

After coming apart at the seams, a global Canadian fashion empire is now on the mend

BY BARBARA WICKENS

Fashion designer Alfred Sung was having a little trouble locating his address in Montreal by June 1999, but he was recently developed an allergy to his beloved dog, Chico. But when that gave away the three-year-old chase, as his doctor recommended, Sung opted for shots to desensitize him to his allergen. "Now, I get a needle in each arm each week," he said, rubbing his biceps. For the 45-year-old designer, it's just the latest in a string of aggravations. In April, Elac Sales Ltd., a Toronto-based clothing wholesaler and retailer that manufactured Sung's women's/fashion outerwear, went bankrupt. Because of the structure of the empire, Elac's destruction no direct legal or financial effect on the 17 other businesses that make everything from Sunlighter eyeglasses to luggage. But in an industry where image is everything—and women's fashion is the core centric of that image—it was a devastating blow. Even now, with three new stores opening this week in Toronto and the talk will fresh on two more licensing deals, the situation still frustrates Sung and his colleagues. "It is so frustrating to hear 'Alfred is back,'" says his business partner Saul Mirman. "Alfred was never away."

Certainly, Sung's designs of sophisticated classicism have made him Canada's best-known designer in the volatile international fashion scene. In all, there were 1200 million worth of Sunlighter products—most notably perfume—sold in more than 50 countries last year. Still, the business has nearly come apart



at the seams several times. In recent years, customer complaints about declining quality led prominent retailers, including Holt Renfrew in Canada and Saks Fifth Avenue in the United States, to stop selling Sung's fashions. And with the collapse of Elac earlier this year, Sung and his partners came painfully close to not producing a fall collection, even though fall is by far the most important retail season of the year for any Canadian designer. As it is, Sung's fall collection is now available in the U.S. Sung's fall collection is now available in the United States, to stop selling Sung's fashions. And with the collapse of Elac earlier this year, Sung and his partners came painfully close to not producing a fall collection, even though fall is by far the most important retail season of the year for any Canadian designer.

In person, Sung is as understated as the clothing he designs. But in an interview in his spartan office in Toronto's garment district, he was clearly relieved that the latest fiasco with financial disaster is not behind him. "I have been screwing up a distributor," the designer says. "But I won't go to let it stop my creativity. Like they say in the retail business, 'the show must go on.'"

Despite the uncertainties and delays in finding a manufacturer, Sung and his part-



Alfred Sung at home, modelling the latest styles in Sung's Sunlighter (left), selling sweat in Toronto (far left) clothes

ners are a little bit more than the CEO of the industry in showing their samples for spring 2000 to the retail buyers. Nevertheless, he has already begun research on his fall 2000 collection and he will leave later this month to visit European fabric mills.

Sung says he is also extremely pleased by the emotional support from his partners, the other business and some members of the fashion industry. "They have all been very kind," he notes. Sung's partners are brothers Saul and Joseph Mirman, longtime fashion industry executives who now head Toronto-based Mirman Group Inc., which licenses the Alfred Sung trademark worldwide. Executives at Brown Concepts Inc., the Toronto-based perfume that introduced the first Alfred Sung scent in 1980, say that the original third owner is still as good as retired, with about 10,000 items in stock. "In many parts of the world, Sung is better known as a performer than a designer," explains Adrian Ellis, president of Brown's European division. In fact, Ellis says that the fragrance line has been so profitable that Brown has begun



selling with Sung's line as a brand name for introduction in only 1999.

While Sung kept on developing Sunlighter's new line, he continued to expand the Mirman brothers' retail business. Last month, they signed up Supreme Industries of Montreal to manufacture Alfred Sung men's and women's jeans under license. They finished an agreement with a Russian licensee to open three stores in St. Petersburg, Russia. And they signed an agreement to license Sung's full range of products worldwide in the Asian market. "Alfred is already well-known in Asia—he is sort of a native son," says Saul Mirman of Sung, who was born in Shanghai and arrived in Canada in 1974 at the age of 15. At the same time, many of the retailers who stopped carrying the Sung label have pledged to reconsider the spring line.

Although the fashion manufacturing and retail business in Canada at best, the Mirman brothers' success may be fortuitous. The Canadian retail sector is finally starting to recover from a winter of setbacks in losing the introduction of the U.S. 400 Series (T-shirt) in 1998, the economic recession and the proliferation of counterfeit goods. Alexander McKelvie, president of the Retail Council of Canada, says that retail sales were up 4.6 per cent in July over the same month last year. Clothing store sales, he adds, have been particularly strong. "During the recession, there was a substantial increase in jeans

and workwear, as well as other apparel and wardrobe replacement," McKelvie explains. And although the GST remains in jeopardy as ever, the Canadian dollar has slipped against its U.S. counterpart from 68 cents (U.S.) in 1994 to 73 cents last week, making domestic shopping prices more appealing.

According to Mirman, it is also a good time to start manufacturing Sung's line of fashions in Canada. "There is a lot of jobs available and good wages in this country," he says. Indeed, data from Statistics Canada indicates

that the apparel and jewelry retail of specialty retail garment makers available this year, there are more than 10,000 workers employed in the apparel manufacturing industry, up from about 75,000 at the depth of the recession in 1992. But the numbers are still down considerably from 1988, when the industry hit its peak and employed 112,000 workers. As well, Sung and his partners have had just—albeit marginally happy—experience in manufacturing their own line of clothing. From the time they started up in 1979 until 1991, their company made the Sung line in Japan right in Toronto. But when a bank withdrew their line of credit at the depth of the recession in 1991, Sung and the Mirmans relocated their venture so that it was strictly a licensee, leaving others to take care of the day-to-day business production.

Still, not all of these circumstances have worked out according to plan. In 1991, the group signed a 50-year licensing agreement with Elac to make and market the premier Alfred Sung label and the less expensive Sung Sport line. Chase-born financier Alfred Chau

established Elac in 1976 to import inexpensive merchandise, including T-shirts, from his hometown and elsewhere in the Far East. After raising several million through a share issue in 1985, Elac went on a buying binge, acquiring both mid-price men's and women's fashion businesses and diversifying aggressively into such varied areas as real estate.

The Sung label was supposed to be the jewel in Elac's corporate crown. But Sung and other fashion industry insiders say that the company's losses in lowered apparel demand that Elac was ill-equipped to make and distribute designer merchandise. "They didn't burn the corporate oil well," declares a fashion exec who warns when Elac's interest in various money, moved the parent manufacturing operations to China. It then became difficult to ensure the quality that Sung's established customers expected from a well-priced but costly \$350 to a \$10 blouse that costs \$12. Jackets and skirts, for instance, were sometimes cut from fabric from different dye lots, leaving shoppers unable to buy a suit that matched. The final straw for the handful of retailers that remained loyal to the Sung label came in February, 1986, when Elac purchased all stock of the Toronto department store from Conark Inc. With Elac suddenly positioned as a competitor as well as a supplier, the remaining retailers phased out Sung's clothing collections.

The announcement in February, 1984, that Elac, which owed \$120 million in its second and unsuccessful lenders, had filed for court protection from its creditors proved to be a blessing in disguise for Sung. Elac's first move in an attempt to restructure was to scrap its Sung operations, closing its 25 Alfred stores across Canada. But the company was plunged into bankruptcy in April when Elac's creditors refused to support the proposed restructuring. Shortly afterward, an Ontario Court judge agreed with the Mirvise Group that Elac had breached the terms of the licensing agreement and returned the license to the Mirvise Group from 1979 onwards.

Getting back the stock and materials proved for the fall 1984 season proved more difficult. Sung had dragged the collection in November, 1985, and samples of the garments were ready to go to retailers—but they were still held in Elac's inventory. And Mirvise says that the court-appointed receiver, Doree Reimold Ltd., wasted more than \$1 million for the patterns and samples—and he was countered with an offer of \$20,000. They eventually worked, at an undisclosed price, and the Mirvise Group had the patterns back by June.

While Elac was wading down, the Mirvise Group was heading into high gear. Its new company, Allied Sung Collection Inc., is a joint venture with Michael Wutzler, a Toronto retail executive. The biggest challenge now, says Wutzler, is to win primary creative credit as president for Mirvise & Spewitz Canada, to be ready for the negotiation to grow too fast. "The pressure from outside is amazing," he says. "So many retailers want Allied back in their stores." Knowing that his designs are still as desirable—and his lower season ends with the first blow—Allied Sung should soon be able to breathe a little easier. □

## Branching out

Fashion designers, at the label implies, usually start their careers designing men's or women's fashion. Then, if they are talented enough, have good business sense—or the sense to have a good business partner—some may branch out into other related areas, from fashion accessories to perfume. That is the career path that Montreal designer Simon Chung has followed since he burst into the Canadian fashion scene in 1980. Today, his women's ready-to-wear collection is sold in more than 300 stores across Canada. Hundreds

In Chung's case, a reflection of his style. The furniture, made under license by Cooper Bros. Upholstery Co. Ltd. of Toronto, is divided into five living room groupings. As with his clothing, Chung provides the consumer with the opportunity to mix and match. Each grouping of traditional to contemporary sofas, love seats, chairs, ottomans and accent cushions is available in a selection of coordinating fabrics. Cooper Bros., in fact, will make the furniture to order based on each customer's specifications. But unlike his clothing, which sells in the second-hand market, the Chung furniture is described as a luxury line. The sofas, for instance, will sell at the retail level for about \$3,500 to \$50,000. Chung says that the collection fits a growing gap in the market. "People can buy a decorative sofa, with a selection of designer fabrics, but not pay made-to-order prices."

There are high hopes in some quarters that Chung's distinctive style will lend some much-needed prestige to the Canadian furniture industry. According to one industry analyst, who asked not to be named, international buyers have been a bit doubtful about Canadian design. Let's hope the Chung-Cooper alliance will reassure them. "That theory will first be tested at the industry's annual market in January that attracts furniture buyers from sources from around the world. Until then, Elac's, which will launch the furniture collection later this month in Vancouver before selling it out to Montreal and Toronto, will carry the line exclusively. For the moment, Chung, who also has collections of accessories and shoes and bed linen bearing his name, the furniture line is just another step towards his goal of creating a total home environment. He has designed furniture that is comfortable to lounge at, but is not one, after all, to rest on one's hands."

B.W.



Chung on the edge of his next modelling venture and furniture.

more stores sell everything from his signature drapery, linens, to men's suits and accessories. But now Chung has crossed over into an area where few other fashion designers—and none in Canada—have gone before: furniture design. (In North America, only Ralph Lauren and Calvin Klein have made the move from designer fashions to hard goods like furniture.) And as Chung learned about in one of his contracted leather-and-tweed-covered chairs at a recent preview of the furniture collection in north Toronto, he was clearly excited by the new venture. "I could never understand why fabrics and leather decor—on the one hand—were always appreciated," he said. "You're both a reflection of an individual's style."

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# Business NOTES

## Cott in a squeeze

**I**t's official. After months of speculation, Dave Nichol, the marketing whiz who headlined the last year's successful Praxair's Choice private label product line for Wal-Mart, has been named president of Cott Corp., the commercial Toronto-based softdrink bottler. On Oct. 1, Nichol will replace Heather Bennett, who joined Cott in July, 1993. Bennett, a longtime friend and supporter of Cott chairman and chief executive Gerald Pincus,



Nichol (left), Pincus: growth

(pictured), (pictured) that she is leaving Cott voluntarily in order to "move out my own piece." In 1993, Bennett scooped a profit of \$5.6 million after exercising her Cott stock options. Nichol is widely credited with Cott's recent resurgence as a global supplier of house-brand soft drinks to such retail chains as Wal-Mart in the United States and J. Sainsbury in Britain. In 1990, during his 20-year tenure at Loblaw, Nichol recruited Cott as a licensee contract to the supplier of the popular Praxair's Choice soft drinks and launched Cott's recent growth spurt. Nichol's mandate is to lead Cott beyond soft drinks—where most of Cott's cheap, available bottling capacity is now fully used—and into new food product areas. He will be exploring initiatives with Baskin-Robbins, for example, and Coca-Cola. Still, just as Nichol's appointment was announced, Loblaw revealed that it will not renew its contract with Cott to produce the private label Praxair's Choice beer that fall. That beer supply contract is currently held

by Lakeport Brewing Co., which is controlled by Cott. At the same time, Loblaw was reportedly reviewing its soft-drink supply contracts with Cott as well. Loblaw remains one of Cott's largest single customers, accounting for 31 per cent of Cott's 1993 sales at \$13.4 million. The latest Cott account is Wal-Mart, which represents about 24 per cent of the company's sales. However, Pincus noted that Cott's contract with Loblaw runs until mid-1995 and that it contains no provision for cancellation or revision.

Both Pincus and Nichol have suffered from the glare of negative publicity for months as the company's shares have come under attack from stock market sell-offers, who are skeptical about

Cott's accounting practices and its ability to sustain its record pace of growth. Company management has also come under fire for the real award of stock options to senior executives. Following Bennett's resignation, two new questions about the contracts with Loblaw, Cott's stock fell by \$1. It recovered to close the week at \$19.15. Over the year, Cott shares have tumbled from a high at \$49.

The investment analysts fear soft-drinkers. Cott was ranked back to Praxair's days at the bottom of Financial Trustco Capital Ltd. The company collapsed under a mountain of debt in 1996. Praxair's operations are still owed \$64 million for the loans and guarantees that were required to sustain the company and protect depositors.

### STARTING ALCOHOL

Financially troubled Air Atlantic of St. John's, Nfld., was granted a 15-day extension to develop a restructuring plan. The airline's bankruptcy protection expires on Sept. 7. Atlantic applied for court protection from its creditors in May, owing more than \$111 million.

### A SUBSIDIARY SPINOFF

The Canadian subsidiary of forest products giant Bowle Cascade Corp. of Idaho is being spun off as a separate public company. An initial public offering of about \$420 million in new stock will be offered by the newly renamed Rainier Forest Products Inc. Rainier Forest's assets will include two paper mills in northwestern Ontario—Kenora and Fort Frances—and a mill in Skagit County, Wash.

### UNION STAFF THREATEN STRIKE

The 266,000-member Canadian Auto Workers union is facing a strike by its 500 national representatives—CWA employees who help to organize union locals across Canada. The Union of Canadian Auto Staff Representatives will strike by mid-September unless a new contract is negotiated.

### ALL IN THE FAMILY

Scott and Michael McCain, the sons of Wallace McCain, are suing McCain Foods Ltd. of Moncton, N.B., claiming they have been denied information necessary to do their jobs as directors of the \$3-billion company. Wallace and his elder brother Harman have been pitted against each other in a succession battle for the past year. The feud is believed to have started when Wallace unilaterally appointed his son Michael to head the company's American operations, a move opposed by Harman. Wallace has proposed a three-pronged plan for resolving the dispute and who should succeed the two at the helm of the company. The board of the family holding company is set to vote Sept. 30 on whether to oust Wallace as chief executive officer. Harman and Wallace each own 34 per cent, with the rest split between the families of two deceased brothers.

## A growth spurt

For the second quarter of 1994, Canada posted the strongest economic growth since 1987. According to a report from Statistics Canada, real output grew by 6.4 per cent, spurred by strong exports, construction and corporate investment in new equipment. The surge in activity created 122,000 new, full-time jobs. Economists had been forecasting growth of about five per cent for the second quarter. In the first three months of 1994, the

economy grew at a rate of 4.4 per cent.

Even though interest rates increased between April and the end of June, inflation remained at around 0.6 per cent on an annual basis. Economists are optimistic that the Bank of Canada will be able to meet its target of one to three per cent inflation over the next year. Strong economic growth, along with increased employment and sustained tax revenues, is also expected to help the Liberal government reduce the federal deficit. For 1994-1995, the government intends to reduce the deficit to \$29.7 billion.





# Castonguay's fate runs with us all

BY PETER C. NEWMAN

Accusations have been described as losing their heads in the night and their feet in the oven but being comfortable—in the sun. That description pretty well fits Claude Castonguay, Canada's most influential attorney, whose cool intellect has always been contradicted by his boisterous ideology. His success is particularly relevant as the Quebec election winds towards its climax, and Castonguay, once one of federalism's chief champions in the province, has cast his fate against the Canadian option.

His choice is far more significant than the political fulfillment of one man, who confesses that "as a Quebecer, proud of my language, my heritage and my culture, I have to recognize that the efforts I made throughout my long career in support of Canadian unity have, in the end, brought me only disappointment."

It has not surprised Castonguay many times, covering the evolution of Quebec's journey from the darkness of the Dupleix era to the *Lesage* enlightenment, *Lesage's* status in the province and the lengthy *Bourassa* misadventures. Castonguay was there at the creation of modern Quebec, granting much of the intellectual heft of the *Quebec* revolution and the impetus for social reform that led Pierre Trudeau into politics. He moved from his stature as a professor of actuarial science at Laval University into the political bullring, first as head of the royal commission that established the parameters for federalism in Quebec and later as the provincial minister of health who unopposedly led the social affairs portfolio, he became chief architect of the Quebec position plan, which became the basis for its national big brother.

He quickly became the conscience of Robert Bourassa's patronage-protection movement, the highest accolade accorded him was *Le Devoir's* quip that "my name was ever more out of place in the Bourassa cabinet." That didn't stop him from having consider-

*That anyone of his stature should turn against Canada says as much about the country as it does about him*

able influence. After the 1975 meeting in Victoria at which Bourassa and the other Canadian premiers approved a constitutional charter consisting most of what would later become the Meech Lake accord, Castonguay persuaded the premier to hold out for more and scuttled the deal.

Always active on the moving edge of change, Castonguay has been described by *Sunday's* Jacques H. Beaudin as "having the soulful eyes of an archbishop who's been spouting ones of a cardinal's hat." I prefer the image of him as looking like an emule St. Bernard, leaping along his own path, making the many trials of the mountain called Canada. Despite his snail's pace at Victoria, Castonguay met his fate with the federal state in 1988, he coming president of the pro-independence committee that orchestrated the defeat of *Lesage's* sovereignty association initiative. A decade later, he forced Quebec's Association of *Lesage* and *Lesage* to mobilize 1,800 of the province's top business leaders to support his federalist allies. Just a week before the accord's crucial defeat in Manitoba and Newfoundland, Castonguay warned that Quebec and the rest of the country were moving dangerously close to a split-up

"We're like the couple so much in love in reconciliation and perdition that they're getting to the point where the only way out is divorce—while living under the same roof perhaps, but divorce all the same."

Once the accord had been rejected, all bets were off. "People in Quebec who voted No in the referendum in 1980 saw the rest of Canada as moving stability, security, openness and other good things," he told me a few days after Meech exploded. "Ten years later, the situation has almost completely reversed itself. People here now definitely and clearly plan up any hope of finding a reasonable place for Quebec within the coming federal structure. No one—except!—excepted!—believes any longer that it's possible to arrive at any reasonable arrangement. The status quo is definitely dead."

He made a first best curial call on the federal stage—as one of the leading senators appointed by Brian Mulroney to help get the GST through the upper chamber—and was appointed by the PM to co-chair one of the constitutional committees that led to the Charlottetown accord. He first took on the assignment, then caught a dose of diplomatic ill and quit both the committee and the Senate.

The most puzzling aspect of his current position is the personal aversion Castonguay feels about being Canadian. "If there was a referendum in Quebec tomorrow," he confessed at the start of his election campaign, "I would feel responsible of defending my country, which doesn't accept me, with my differences and my history."

How's that?

If there ever was one Quebecer thoroughly accepted—not just accepted, worshipped—within English Canada's ruling circles, it had to be Claude Castonguay. He did part of his actuarial training at the University of Manitoba and later spent three years with the Royal Canadian Navy, which promoted him to officer rank. Apart from his distinguished political career, which allowed him to garner 11 honorary doctorates and become a Companion of the Order of Canada, he was invited to join such Establishment groups as the Trilateral Commission, he became chairman of the Conference Board of Canada and a director of the Business Council on National Issues. He was even made a member of that most Canadian of institutions, *Rotary's* for his role.

In running his own business, he created the country's first financial supermarket by moving Montreal's once-sleepy *Laurentian Group Corp.* to assets of \$10 billion from 30 million in 1970, publishing up Toronto's *Imperial Life* and just about every unattached financial institution in Quebec. The galloping growth of his companies was made possible at nearly every turn by favorable regulatory rulings from Ottawa.

As an individual of Castonguay's life experience, wisdom and intellect should turn against Canada says as much about the country as it does about him.

In a very real way, the fate of Claude Castonguay runs with us all.



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# Drug-busting dramas

Police forces mount two spectacular raids

It is accurate to the field of law enforcement that writing the profile of a criminal is a dramatic task. Last week, in raids on homes, businesses and unsuspected financial institutions in Montreal, Quebec City, Trois-Rivières and Vancouver, the RCMP dropped the gauntlet as what police claim is the largest drug-related money-laundering racket ever uncovered in Canada.

They arrested 57 people, including three Montreal lawyers, on charges of drug trafficking and conspiracy in the laundering of more than \$100 million, most of it from cocaine sales across Canada. RCMP Sgt. Claude Lévesque said that the arrests and the evidence seized in the raids were a major setback for members of Montreal's long-established organized crime syndicate. Added Lévesque: "We left them with 35 cents for a phone call."

In the never-ending chronicle of the war on drug deals, the Montreal crime-story series last Tuesday was not any short of spectacular. But between the work was one of last cooperation in an apparently unrelated drama, more than 300 Quebec provincial police officers unseated during the Montreal bedroom community of Chambly at 6 a.m. last Thursday. The raiders took about 75 people, including the entire 24-member municipal police force, in to custody for questioning, revealing early in their out of bed.

By the next day, two police officers had been charged with trafficking and conspiracy to traffic in alcoholic beverages. Another 20 people were charged with a range of offenses including illegal arms possession, drug trafficking and conspiracy to traffic, as well as possession of stolen goods. Crown prosecutor Madeline Giguère said that more charges would be laid this week.

The Chambly raids were bizarre, but the RCMP's Montreal-based money-laundering operation, based on four years of information, was the stuff of big-budget crime movies. It encompassed an elaborate sting operation in which RCMP officers oper-

ated a money exchange centre in Montreal where drug traffickers unwittingly deposited cash for laundering, the Aug. 12 seizure by undercover Montreal and U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) officers of more than half a ton of cocaine off the Colombian coast, the discovery of a money-laundering gang—said to have been Haiti's largest—involving in collecting the proceeds of drug



A Quebec police officer suspects a Chambly criminal on an officer displays money seized by the RCMP (right), the never-ending chronicle of the war on drug deals.



ations. Criminal networks, and RCMP Staff Sgt. Denis Dumas, senior investigator in the force's Montreal drug section, "now know the type of work we're capable of and they'll have to be very cautious in the future."

These arrests and charges in Montreal included lawyers Richard Judd, Vancouver's Veredio and Joseph Lagace, as well as Lou Costello, said to be the owner of a Montreal import-export business. Judd, Lagace and Costello were denied bail when they appeared in court. Meanwhile, in Vancouver, police arrested a man identified early as Norman Rosenblatt, while Metro Toronto

police held two more suspects, Santiago and Jason Sanchez. Pierre Rodrigue and David Paulina, who police claimed were members of Haiti's Asphex, were arrested in England pending extradition to Canada. RCMP Staff Sgt. Yves Gagnon, who coordinated the operation, said Canadian banks had handled some of the drug money but probably had not known where it came from and they were not under suspicion.

In one of their biggest operations ever, the Montreal force was assisted not only by the DEA, but by Latin American, British, Quebec, Montreal and Toronto police. More than 3,500 telephone conversations were tapped, private houses and offices were raided, and hundreds of documents were seized.

Meanwhile, Chambly's police evidence remained packed in front of the department's provincial police took over patrol duties in the town of 11,000. While some Chambly officers re-

turned to work, municipal officials said that the provincial police would remain as long as necessary. Their raid in the local town followed a five-month investigation—and years of rumors. "We always knew that some things were not right," said Perrelette, a Chambly waitress who declined to give her last name. "But nothing was ever confirmed to us until now and the police were always perfect gentlemen in public." Another resident, 39-year-old Susan Labbe, however, expressed surprise. "My kids are six and seven years old," said Labbe. "Last night, they saw the news on TV and asked why our politicians are being accused. What are we supposed to answer? It leaves a very bad taste in their young minds."

Although police said there was an connection between the Montreal and Chambly operations, former RCMP assistant commissioner Rod Stenler said in Montreal that he was not surprised by the apparent connection. "I found in my experience that as you're getting information you tend to distribute what's relevant to other investigations at other levels. Every major organized crime activity in Canada has a network of money distribution connected with it. If police focused on money-laundering operations to a greater extent as trying to deal with organized crime, they would be much more successful." Given last week's breakthrough in Montreal, it would seem that the police focus is finally in place.

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Fly fishermen: 'Salmon fishing in Nova Scotia is a thing of the past'

## LIFESTYLES

# An Atlantic mystery

**B**ack then, the fish stories never seemed to end at the Lunenburg Lodge in Upper Stewiack, N.S. Until five years ago, anglers from as far away as Asia, Europe and the United States packed the comfortable 17-room lodge as soon as the Atlantic salmon started running. But this summer, the Lunenburg sounds silent: most of the salmon rivers in the area are so depleted that they have been closed to anglers. "Salmon fishing in Nova Scotia is a thing of the past," laments Tim Kennedy, who owned the lodge 17 years ago. "So are we." He plans to turn the once-bustling retreat into a senior citizens' home—where the afterglow talk is unlikely to be about back casts, fly patterns and the heart-thumping thrill of landing a powerful fish on the end of a fishy rod line.

Iconic, in a way. Throughout North America, fly fishing is enjoying a surge in popularity, thanks, in part, to Robert Redford's lyrical 1989 film *A River Runs Through It*. What a time for the Atlantic salmon—which have made Eastern Canada a mecca for foreign anglers for more than a century—to start experiencing a precipitous decline. Last year's harvest in Canadian waters was the lowest in record—431 tons—just 70 per cent of the 1982 harvest

and only 22 per cent of the average over the previous 30 years. This summer, although a few rivers—including New Brunswick's famed Miramichi—appear strongly unaffected by the salmon shortage, most areas have experienced low water levels and drought salmon runs, forcing the department of fisheries and oceans to close dozens of rivers in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Newfoundland to fishing. And that has put a huge dent in what was a \$150-million-a-year salmon angling industry in the region. "We've reached the crisis stage," concedes Bill Taylor, an executive director at the Atlantic Salmon Federation, a nonprofit organization that promotes salmon conservation.

Taylor, like most conservationists, are problems looming years ago. But anglers had hoped the salmon stocks would recover this year because of trends on the number of fish caught by anglers, a maintenance on commercial fishing off Newfoundland and a practice that pays commercial fisheries in Greenland not to fish for salmon. Instead, the news has single catches worse. Only 18 years ago, scientists calculated that three

were about 800,000 North American salmon in the northeast Atlantic Ocean, where they died before returning as fully grown salmon to rivers in the Atlantic provinces and Quebec. Scientists now put the figure at 225,000—about the minimum level needed to sustain Canadian salmon stocks at healthy levels. "The further you go below that threshold," says David MacIsaac, a senior policy adviser for the department of fisheries and oceans, "the more susceptible the stock becomes to some external disaster."

The deck was always stacked against the salmon, which follow their own internal compass from the moment they hatch. Each spring, millions of juvenile salmon, or smolts, leave Atlantic rivers for their ocean feeding grounds. But even at the best of times, only a small percentage survive to make the return trip to their home rivers where they spawn. Birds of prey hunt down thousands of fish before they leave the rivers, drift or gill nets claim others as they migrate through coastal waters to their deep-sea spawning grounds.

But why, in recent years, have thousands more salmon been dying in the ocean, dramatically reducing the numbers of fish available to replenish Eastern Canadian rivers? Some authorities say that the food base for salmon—small fish like capelin—is declining; others speculate that natural predators could be taking their toll. And according to

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another theory. Spring results may be low owing large quantities of salmon beyond Canada's 200-mile fishing limit. But scientists are relatively certain about one other factor: the ocean temperature is falling. Historically, as Montague points out, "there has been a very close relationship between the coldness of the water and the number of salmon out there." Salmon prefer to feed in waters with surface temperatures of between 4° and 20° C. As the ocean cools, there are fewer areas with such optimum conditions.

What to do in spring's games. Some scientists recently convinced the government has done enough—at an early enough stage—to prevent a full-scale disaster. In the meantime, research continues into the depletion of the salmon stocks.

An additional reason in the disappearing salmon mystery is that some rivers appear relatively unaffected. In Quebec's Goups Peninsula, on Cape Breton Island, and on the world-renowned Miramichi and Restigouche rivers in New Brunswick, fishermen are looking healthy numbers of fish this summer. Some scientists speculate that fish in those rivers may have spent the winter feeding at different—warmer, hospitable—locations than the salmon have declined rivers. And their return has also drawn the most passionate anglers. "Salmon fishing is a simple, beautiful thing," says Laurie Macdonald, 32, a fishing guide who lives less than a mile from the Chincamp River on Cape Breton Island. "Most people present year by year, and soon that good, beautiful fish take it on up Atlantic river, you'll never forget the experience."

The sports alone override travel considerations like wealth and social standing. No one sees anyone—from working stiffs who camp beside their favorite fishing holes, to the rich and famous outsiders of the prestigious Salmon Club, the chief executives of huge American corporations and golfing legends Jack Nicklaus among them. On the 600-acre Miramichi River system, most of the best fishing pools—and the luxurious all-weather lodges—are owned by international pulp and paper companies and such wealthy businessmen as New Brunswick's Irving family. Out on the river, they rub shoulders with celebrities that have included baseball Hall of Famer Ted Williams and British blues, including Prince Charles.

In a perverse way, the madman scarcity of salmon makes fishing one of the most exciting. After three years as editor of the St. Andrews, N.B.-based *Atlantic Salmon Journal*, Toronto-born writer and editor Harry Price was beginning to wonder if the sport's allure was overblown. Then, last month, he hooked his first salmon on the Miramichi. "It was everything I'd hoped for," he recalls. "I spent the night thinking about all the new fishing gear I was going to go out and buy." That gear will not be much use if the salmon shortage affecting most of Atlantic Canada drags down the fabled Miramichi as well.

JOHN DEBENIST in Halifax

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## SPORTS

## Out of Africa

BY JAMES DEACON

I was one of those sporting events, reminiscent of Paul Henschen scoring the winning goal in the Canada-Soviet Union hockey summit of 1972, or Joe Carter meeting the World Series winning home run last fall. Driven by a stroke and under enormous pressure, Nick Price with a nearly impossible 40-foot eagle putt on the second last hole of the British Open at Turnberry, Scotland, last July to win the most prestigious title in golf by a single shot. Price's last was not for the country, like Henschen's car for home, like Carter's. It was more personal, a moment in childhood dreams. But Price was not alone when he exploded with joy as the ball disappeared into the cup. Tens of millions of golf fans, watching on TV around the world, shared his emotion as he leapt about on the green, hugged his caddy and tumbled his face into the hand of his fellow leavers, clutching a match later, the thrill had not diminished. "I have never been that excited in my life over one shot," the middle-aged of Zimbabwean admitted last week. "That putt on the 71st hole was the most incredible thing I have experienced in golf because I was a stroke behind and I had to make it or go. It was a very difficult feeling, to face that challenge and meet it."

Until then, Price had a nice little career going. In his first 11 years on the PGA Tour, the 39-year-old had won more than \$4.6 million and nine tour events, and was considered one of the best players in golf. That last career putt took on a stronger trajectory this summer, not just because of the British Open, in August, in appearance by last July. Only, he costly pulled away from the elite field at the PGA championship and won by the steadily large margin of six strokes. In a matter of few weeks, Price had collected two significant bits of silver that no golfer "except"—the British Open's clean play and the better Wastminster Trophy for winning the PGA. And suddenly, the name of world's best golfer that few years had passed back and forth between Australia's Greg Norman and England's Nick Faldo had



Price of the PGA championship is the favorite of this week's Canadian Open.

found a new owner. "Nicky's up there somewhere and the rest of us are down here," said U.S. Open winner Steve Elk, holding out his hand above his shoulder, the other at his waist. "Maybe some of the other players don't want to admit it, but it's true."

As a result, Price is the favorite at this week's \$2.8-million Bell Canadian Open in Oakville, Ont., as much with the fans as the bookmakers. Speculation at the host course, Glen Abbey, have embraced Price as one of their own ever since he won there in 1980. That feeling is reciprocated, the tournament is a "testimonial favorite" for Price, both because the 1980 Canadian Open was the first tour event he ever played and because of his win. "I vaguely think back to 1980, and how I played on the back nine—making five straight birdies to win by a stroke," he recalls. "I am very proud of that."

While he appreciates the support in Canada, Price is also enormously proud of his roots in Zimbabwe. And while he is clearly having the most success, he is just one of a contingent of African golfers who have taken golf by storm. Defending Canadian Open

champion David Frost, occupying U.S. Open champion Ernie Els and 1993 World Series of Golf winner Faldo, all are all from South Africa. On the 40-year Canadian Tour this season, three other South Africans—Roger Werners, Ian Macgregor and Derek James—finished second, fourth and seventh, respectively, in tournament winners.

Price, though, would have been happy if he had been allowed to become the greatest living golfer on Earth without it getting around. He was never interested in being a star, and money stopped being an issue when he joined the European Tour in the late 1970s and discovered that he could earn a living at golf. But his drive to improve prompted him to move to Orlando, Fla., in 1980 and compete on the PGA Tour full time. "What has always motivated me, ever since I was a kid, was that I wanted to be a great player all the time," he says. "And I wanted to win all four of the major championships at least once." That winning an already elite list for a while. After winning the World Series of Golf in 1982, his first full year in the United States, he went nearly eight seasons without winning another tour event. "I came from very humble

rods," he says, "and when I was single, if I had enough money to put gas in my boat, and enough to buy the old fishing rod, then I was happy." But it bothered him not to be winning. In retrospect, he says, the harassment came when he and his wife, Sue, started a family. He ended his winning streak in 1981, the year son Gregory was born, his daughter, Ruby, was born in 1983. "Everything pales in comparison to the health and well-being of your family," he says. "It has made me more determined, and it has made me a better person, a fuller person."

It certainly sure in respect on his game. The Streak, as it has become known, began with two PGA Tour victories in 1981, continued with two more in 1992 and blossomed to four in 1993, when he also won players-of-the-year his peers and the Vardon Trophy for the lowest-scoring average over the entire tour season. He earned that distinction in 1994, picking up three tour victories before heading to Scotland for the British Open.

What has longtime golf observers excited, however, are his British Open and PGA triumphs. The back-to-back victories in 1993 put Price into esteemed company. The only other golfers to match that feat in the past few decades are all legends—Ben Hogan, Arnold Palmer, Jack Nicklaus, Lee Trevino and, more recently, Tom Watson, who won the U.S. and British opens in 1982

and was the last truly dominant player on the PGA Tour. Price downplays suggestions that he is Watson's heir. "The position has swung in my direction the last six weeks and I have taken advantage of it," he said after a practice round in Aurora, Colo., recently. "But it will swing back to someone else for a while."

His challenges are not so sure. "This is far more than a roll," says one. Ben Crenshaw said after withering under Price's onslaught in Tulsa. "He is a fabulous golfer. He has proved it here and there again, under different conditions, on different courses, in different parts of the world." Others are looking for ways to slow his momentum. Young Phil Mickelthun, who finished hard in Tulsa, has repeatedly offered to take Price sidling. Mickelthun, it should be noted, was unable to play for several months this season after breaking his leg on a ski last winter.

Price has to be declared the winner, although he is not immune to the illness of all victors. He did his two years of compulsory service as a pilot in the Rhodesian air force, and only gave up flying private aircraft—including chart planes—a few years ago. He

still waterskis and relaxes by fly-fishing—something he learned from his father, who died when Nick was only 10. But there is less time for recreation. "The number of calls and requests for his time have more than tripled since the British Open," says John Miller, one of two full-time assistants at Price's Orlando office.

The fact that Price, Els and Spaniard José María Olazábal, who won the 1994 Masters, also Americans out of the four majors this year has U.S. officials concerned. The tour is staging the inaugural Transitions Cup, pitting a team of Americans against one made up of non-European international stars, the week after the Canadian Open. And the prospects for the Americans do not look good. That the internationalization of golf has been under way for years. The last American to win the Canadian Open, for instance, was Wayne Levi in 1990. (The last Canadian to win was Pat Fletcher in 1964.) The international players themselves after several forays doubt why they have done so well, raising from the difficulty of the courses they grew up on to the intense competition of foreign lands. "We had to be hungry to be successful," says Norman. "I was the money

*'Nick's up there somewhere and the rest of us are down here'*



Price (left), Olazábal (center) and Els (right), shutting out Americans

lost in Europe with something like \$27,000 in 1981 or thereabouts. That wasn't that long ago. If you didn't put in a good performance, you didn't have any money in your pocket.

In North America, things are a little different. It's padded a little more."

Price's recent play, however, gives him no guarantee at Glen Abbey, a course with a rep-

utation for dominating great performances from most players. Norman, whom Price visited as the No. 3-ranked player in the world, defeated American Bruce Crampton in a playoff to win the open in 1982, and Fred Perot did the final hole to beat American Fred Couples by a stroke last year. All except Norman will return this week to win for the \$250,000 first prize. And Crampton will be represented by his two tour players, Dave Barr and Richard Sisk, both of Richmond, B.C., along with several top-rated players from the Canadian Tour, including Ray Stewart of Abbotsford, B.C., Jason Kaul of Vancouver, B.C., and Mike Weir of England's Green, UK.

Price cautions the sun is hot, despite his anger. He underwent immediately following the PGA to remove several minor cut lesions of skin cancer from his back. He says he has recovered and he has a caution for his challengers. "I am convinced that I can get better," he says. "There are lessons that I am still taking, and that keeps making the game exciting to me." As for life off the course, success does not seem to have changed Price any more than it has changed the opinions of his peers, among whom he remains enormously popular. "When you see a guy like that, winning so much, he has lost the last few years, and he's still the battle, nice guy that he always has been, that's impressive," Zelen says. And in golf, at least, Price is proof that nice guys can finish first. □

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## Keeping sport in perspective

BY TRENT FRAYNE

Men's single ice has gone from the game. Junior champs commensurate the sports pages. It's there for the hardball players, the free ball players, the hockey players, even the lovely old owners. Where have all the flowers gone?

Enter Rob McKillop. This kid is 20 and in mid-career he was the Canadian junior golf champion for the third straight year. Nobody had done that in the 50-year history of the event. And being the national champion, he'd earned a place in the Canadian amateur championship tournament the following week. Except Rob said, he was't playing second for this national tournament, instead, he was going home to Winnipeg.

"Golf is my game and it's important to me, but there are other priorities," Rob said. "I'm leaving for school next week and I want the time with my family and my friends and my girlfriend." The school is the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque, where Rob has been awarded an athletic scholarship. Academically, he'll major in education. "I'd like to be a teacher if golf doesn't pan out," Rob says. "But right now, it's college. One step at a time."

Rob had offers of scholarships from a couple of dozen American universities and chose New Mexico because he feels the golf course there. John Fields, is an excellent teacher. Rob is a shot faster of modern students, five feet seven inches and 140 lbs., blue-eyed and a straight throw. Waiting for a Winnipeg win, the girlfriend he won, Jennifer, McKillop's girlfriend, 20 or 21 people also waiting to welcome him—grandparents, aunts, uncles and friends gathering at the McKillop house. There, Jim and Cheryl McKillop, Rob's parents, were celebrating his victory with a barbecue.

After there was Rob's brother Charles, who is 25, an assistant pro at the St. Boniface Golf Club in Winnipeg. The eldest McKillop boy, David, is 25 and would have been there, too.

*'Golf is important to me,' McKillop says, 'but there are other priorities. I want the time with my family and my friends'*

but he was in London, Ont., playing on the Canadian professional tour. Two days earlier, he had driven from London to Hamilton, where the junior championship was played, to provide a brotherly family face. No doubt about it, the McKillops are a golfing family. They all play, including Cheryl, at the Pine Ridge course in Winnipeg's northern reaches.

Patience and self-control are virtues in any sport, and especially in golf, a most demanding game. Still, it was the game Jim McKillop played as a young man and the one he got his boys into because he wanted to be with them while they and his business were growing. Jim builds three-story houses. The boys were strict golfers. Rob was 5 when his dad handed him a sword of club and showed him how to grip it.

Jim implanted those two virtues of patience and self-control playing golf with his sons, and his method was simple enough: if the boy made a bad shot and yelled or grew angry or nervous—or if he wasn't permitted to make a shot while he and his dad watched the next hole.

Patience and self-control, Rob succeeded early. He won the Manitoba junior title at 25 and, in 1989, at 26, he was the Canadian ju-

nior and invincible champion, the first time anyone had captured those two the same year. But 1994 has been even better. Rob went to Tokyo, Japan, with a Canadian team for the world junior championship. The Canadian finished second to the best country by a single shot over three rounds, won an singles ahead of Spain and came in from of the United States. Rob won the individual competition with a two-stroke victory over Japan's top player.

Back home in mid-August, Rob won his unprecedented third national junior title at the Checkmate club in Hamilton in the foothills of an overcast lump that local residents are pleased to call a monsoon. This monsoon is somewhat less inspiring than the Rockies, but it's still no place for heart patients. It rained for the St. Lawrence Valley pouring a startling volume from the 19th to 21st and ending. "No way I'm going out there!"

Anyway, Rob shot rounds of 67, 68, 69 and 69, actually winning victory from home town favorite Jed Ollinger by mere margins of the previous his. But he had punched years earlier. On the final round, and paired with Ollinger, Rob was trailing by three shots after eight holes. On the ninth he defied his second shot off a tree branch onto the green and sank a 35-foot putt for an eagle. When Ollinger got involved in the trees and took a bogey, Rob had caught him.

He knew he had been lucky. "I'd been for me aggressive on the last one," he said. "I knew I had to be patient if I was going to beat Jed."

So he was patient on the back nine and the young man reached the 18th for the final one, and took it under par for the tournament. Each had the final green with the second shot. Rob made five feet from the cup. Rob nearly 30 feet away.

"I was glad I got to put first," Rob said. "I knew it made it 20 putts the pressure on him."

He stepped his hand coming golf on a large green surrounded by spectators and trees, giving a tag to a little blue ball, he calmly nudged his ball on a right-to-left route into the cup.

He was right about the pressure shifting to his opponent. There's an old saying in golf: "First in wins." It took Rob's instincts over his five-foot. When he sent his ball on its ride, it slid gently past the rim.

Rob is seven shots golf but not about himself. The ball he used on that final round was destined for the Royal Canadian Golf Association's museum and hall of fame at the Glen Abbey course in Oakville, Ont., to commemorate Rob's unique three-time title. "It has a blue identifying mark," an association official said a shaggy near the 18th green for the victory ceremony. "It has Mark 2004 100 on it."

"There's a time mark on it, too," Rob said wryly, reflecting on the eagle that got him back into the week.

Rob had his week at home before taking off for New Mexico. There he set up by me. He wasn't alone. His dad, Jim, decided he might as well, you know, help with the driving, right? So he went, too.

## PEOPLE

### BEAMING UP GENEVIEVE

Genevieve Bujold is about to journey into unexplored territory. Last week, Paramount Pictures announced that the 22-year-old Canadian will star as Capt. Star Trek: Voyager. Debuting in January, it is the fourth TV series to the sci-fi saga, which began in 1966 with the original Star Trek and has continued with Star Trek: The Next Generation and Star Trek: Deep Space Nine. But now that TNG is wrapping up of TV onto the big screen—the movie Star Trek: Generations opens in November—Voyager has become one of the most hotly anticipated arrivals of the new television season. Much of the attention will surely be directed



Bujold, the novelty factor—and precedent

at Bujold, whose screen appearances have been remarkably scarce since her acclaimed work in the movie *Dead Men* (1988). Paramount executives are clearly banking on the novelty factor: she is the first female captain in a Star Trek series. And beyond that, there is a notorious precedent: Bujold shares a birthplace with William Shatner, who played Capt. James T. Kirk in the original series. So she may be bolder going where no woman has gone before—but no other Voyager has.

### STILL KING OF THE RING

The Hanes just won't let a little respect, And why not? As champion of the World Wrestling Federation, an international entertainment empire that grosses more than \$150 million a year, active California Bret (The Hitman) Hart could well be the most recognized Canadian in the world. "I'm the hottest Major League fan in the world, but he's only known in Canada and the United States," says Hart, 37. "You can pick my face up on a telephone or on a toy or something just about any where from here to anywhere." As for the wrestling stuff, Hart acknowledges it is "a little bit circus, a little bit sports"—but not bad. Indeed, his recent match against younger brother Owen arose from real professional jealousy on his younger sibling's part, says the champion. Owen is a widely promoted grudge match, reuniting his life. But Hart says that, one day, he hopes to leave the squared circle for the big screen, to join WWF champions—notably Hulk Hogan—before long. And he seems confident that he can translate his world-class wrestling skills to the cinema. "Hulk Hogan is kind of like the Elvis Presley of wrestling," explains Hart. "I would say that I would be the Robert De Niro of wrestling." Well, already

Hart, a 'cinema,' but not John

Hart, a 'cinema,' but not John



### LIFE ON THE UPBEAT

Pop singer Sara Craig laughingly admits that her "positively positive" attitude has helped her steadily career climb. "Things were always coming together," says the Hamilton-born Craig. "I just needed to push them along. And I worked at it." In 1991, after playing the Toronto music scene for years, Craig decided to push a little harder and produced an independent album, *Sara Craig EP*. It worked. The media will have him quickly get behind the album, which debuted to No. 1

on independent charts and sold more than 7,000 copies—large sales for an independent production. But now that Craig has proven herself, a contract with a major record label has appeared. This month, her long-awaited second album, *Sweet Exhaustion*, will be released by Arco Records, and she will take her 20th pop act on a national tour in the fall. "Maybe I'm heading into the tough ground of a rock 'n' roll tour," says Craig. "But I've put it all your night now, I'm feeling pretty lucky." Positivity intact.

### ANGEL AT HEART

He may be a smoothie by profession, but not by nature. As a teenager at an all-boys Catholic school, Sudbury, Ont. born Tim Canlon dreamed of doing stand up comedy. "I just wasn't into golf, sports and school," says Canlon, 25. After high school, he headed to Toronto, where he performed on the stand-up circuit before moving to Los Angeles in 1990. And he seems to have found a Hollywood niche playing charismatic, never-do-wells—he was a miscreant wannabe in a TV pilot drama, *The Youth*, and an evil genius in the movie *Boyz n the Trbz*. Of the *Stand Up*, Canlon plays up his underdog persona in *BMG Gals*, a new FOX TV sitcom about Generation Xers seeking success, romance and the meaning of life. Jack is "a real life character" to play because people are scared to death of sex and sexuality, says Canlon. But it's a far cry, he adds, both from real life and from his last movie role—a rock-roll musician named Wild in the Dixie County movie *Angels in the Ground*. "I'm probably closer to Wild than any act of my own roles," says Canlon. "Ultimately."

Edited by JOE CHIDREY



MACLEAN'S CONGRATULATES

## PERCY LAMB



### THE NEW BRUNSWICK AUTOMOBILE DEALERS ASSOCIATION 1994 MACLEAN'S DEALER OF EXCELLENCE AWARD WINNER

Percy Lamb is the president of Lamb Ford Sales Ltd. in Sussex, New Brunswick. Percy has been involved in the automobile industry since the age of 15 when he bought his first car, a 1928 Model A Ford for \$15. In the 1950s, he was into stock car racing. His passion for cars continued as he worked 12-hour days as a service station manager for a local dealer, and, showing a real talent for sales, he soon became a full-time sales representative.

After 15 years as a sales manager, Percy became owner of the Ford dealership in Sussex. His family is also active in the business: his wife works in the office, and two sons are sales representatives.

A 15-year member of the Federal Automobile Dealers Association, Percy has been both vice president (1990-1991) and president (1991-1992). Currently, he holds the position of Secretary-Treasurer.

Active in his community, Percy is a member of the Sussex Up-Town Merchants Association, the Rotary Club and the Chamber of Commerce. He is also a fund-raiser with Theatre New Brunswick and the Salvation Army.

*Congratulations Percy*



MACLEAN'S CONGRATULATES

## RICK O'NEILL



### THE NEWFOUNDLAND AUTOMOBILE DEALERS ASSOCIATION 1994 MACLEAN'S DEALER OF EXCELLENCE AWARD WINNER

Rick O'Neill is president of O'Neill Nissan Motors in St. John's, Newfoundland, and Toyota Central in Clarendville, Newfoundland. The O'Neill family has extensive history in the automobile industry. Rick's father has worked in the auto industry for half a century, and his brother works in the automobile aftermarket business.

Rick began his automobile career as a car jockey with Terra Nova Motors in 1972. He then moved on to sales, working between companies while studying business at Memorial University in Newfoundland.

In 1978, O'Neill Motors was started, moving from rented premises to their own building just a few months later. The dealership is continuing to expand and prosper.

A past president of the St. John's Dealer Association, Rick is very active in auto industry organizations, including his role as this year's vice president of the Automobile Association of Newfoundland, and his membership with the Nissan Dealer Council, as well as the Nissan and Toyota Canadian Performance Groups.

Rick is active in his community, volunteering with Junior Achievement, the St. John's Board of Trade, the Better Business Bureau and the Norwegian Society of Newfoundland.

*Congratulations Rick*



# Kinetic artist

In 5 p.m., but Robert Longo is far from finished work. He has stopped outside a Toronto film production building for a brief reprieve from the stale air of an office suite, where he is cutting and editing the second track for his debut effort as a feature film director. The movie is the science-fiction thriller *Johnny Mnemonic*, starring Keanu Reeves. It has to be ready by November, and there are still the verdicts at the studio board and preview sessions to be accounted for.

A great deal is riding on *Johnny Mnemonic*. With a budget of \$12 million, ready or it is devoted to elaborate special effects, it is the most expensive Canadian film ever made. It may also be the hardest work the dreamer Longo—one of the supervisors of the 1980s New York City art scene—has ever undertaken, even more demanding than his monumental drawings, computer gallery installations or vast sculptures. "About three-quarters of the way through shooting, I had this feeling that I hadn't had since I was 13: like I was waking up to the morning and not wanting to go to school," Longo, 40, admits as rush-hour traffic roars past, deserting downtown. "The life that I built for myself over the past 20 years is an art life. That has some structure to it. But I wasn't an everyday job. This is an everyday job. And I was prepared for that, but it's taken as well as my family and my life in the married to Germinie actor Barbara Skowron, and they have three kids."

Longo spent his childhood in Toronto, and he barely ever left the city. The movie's three-month shoot, which began in Toronto and ended in Montreal in April, was one-third longer than the average dramatic production. And the major backers, TriStar in the United States and Alliance film in Canada, have taken a big gamble in hiring New York-based Longo, whose previous



Longo with son Victor and baby Josephine taking risks

## Superstar Robert Longo turns to the big screen

film experience was limited to short personal art movies, videos for bands including R.E.M. and New Order, and two episodes of the 1990 horror series *Tales from the Crypt*. But Longo was directing the movie—the first film adaptation of a "cyberpunk" work by Vancouver author William Gibson—was a natural progression for him. "The never-would-being-an-actor-as-being someone locked in a studio, painting my own

movie," says the burly Longo, who wears his long hair in a goateal and tends to dress exclusively in black. "My work has always been media-based, and making movies is part of the investigation. It's important the artist functions outside of a studio. Artists are the best people left who can tell the truth. No body's sponsoring us."

True in his work ethic, and to his habit of constantly juggling several projects at once, Longo was born to get back to painting and drawing while still at work on *Johnny Mnemonic*. In the spring, an original photography was wrapping up, he rented space in a Toronto industrial neighborhood and started work on 10 huge abstract-expressionist canvases, which he calls *Johnny Mnemonic*. Then, once he began editing the movie, he created a series of sketches that he refers to as the *Mnemonic Drawings*. The paintings are now on display at the Guggenheim Museum Gallery in Toronto's west end until Oct. 1. And getting to show them was a coup for gallery owner Linda Goetzmann and Eva Gerasimov. Longo first visited their establishment to look at an exhibition of contemporary furniture that caught his eye as not disastrous in the museum, and then offered to mount his work there. His *Johnny Mnemonic* sketches will be on view from \$120,000 to \$150,000, a record in their exhibition history.

Longo is naturally about as glib as *Johnny Mnemonic*, although he concedes that it was "weird doing art by committee. Someone said me they didn't realize how much I'm into it. I figure there are 300,000 pictures—individual frames—in a 20-minute movie, so I'm trying to figure out how many of them I can actually have control over. For whatever comes I have about this system to make the movie, it's also important to understand that I



The Johnny Mnemonic paintings by Toronto artist Robert Longo and Dan Meyer are on display at the Guggenheim Museum in Toronto.

apart from this giving me the opportunity. When I look at the movie, I realize how much control I did have. There are a lot of people with a lot of money in this movie and they deserve their voice. They've taken a decent amount, and I appreciate that."

*Johnny Mnemonic* is the futuristic tale of a data courier (Gibson), a kind of busy male who is transporting pirated computer code to chips inside his head. The information that he carries in his head is valuable in a range of bad guys, including a megalomaniac mastermind played by including blood action-movie starlet Dolph Lundgren. And *Johnny's* mission is complicated by a personal conflict: he has no memory of his childhood or adolescence. All this sentimental data was cleaned out of *Johnny's* head in order to increase his computer efficiency capacity, to make him a more efficient courier.

Keanu as Gibson's avatar, including *Newsroomer* and *Grease* star, had already been optioned for film by the time the producers obtained the rights to *Johnny Mnemonic*. It was Gibson's first published short story, appearing in 1981. In the late 1980s, the author and Longo became friends, and the two began planning a movie version. Finally Gibson, "For a while we were thinking of doing it as a small art film, maybe \$1 or \$2 million. We went around to people in Hollywood with that figure and they just laughed. One guy was so amused by the idea that we thought we could do it that cheaply that he was almost ready to give us the money just to see what we came up with. In the end, TriStar and Alliance teamed up as producers. They decided to go with Longo as director largely because of the partnership that

he and Gibson had forged during the years of trying to get the picture made, and because of Alliance producer Don Casado's admiration of Longo's artwork.

During the filming, it was rumored that relations had soured between the producers and director, and that the project had fallen behind schedule. But key players—Longo and Casado—insist that nothing as troubling as "the shoot was incredibly pleasant," Longo says. "I never had any problems with actors, and that was one of my biggest fears. I think people tend to believe that there are problems with this film. The movie has a lot of pressure on it because Keanu's become a superstar [with the success of *Speed*]."

Casado was on the set daily throughout principal photography and in supervising postproduction. He says that Longo's work has been "just incredible." When he started working on the film, he wasn't a complete neophyte, but about as close as you can get. At two pictures like this one are the toughest genre to direct. There were no guarantees in his contract. We could easily have fired him at any time. At first, you could see the actors particularly were wary. But he talked them into being some incredible material." The production is under-budget and, according to Casado, "only a couple of weeks behind schedule, but nothing serious." Any fights that occurred, he says, were good-natured disagreements. "I'm already talking to him about working on another picture, and there are other producers discussing future projects with him as well."

Longo says the only difficult aspect of making the picture has been looking at his images over and over again through the process of editing and postproduction. He's used to writing a sort of imagery in his paintings or sculptures, then moving on once he feels the expression is complete. "I keep seeing mistakes I made, and there's no way I can get any

back. I can't walk up to the screen with a pencil and, like, fix the lighting on Keanu's ear."

As a visual artist, Longo is known for his dense, aggressive and scale of his work. Born to an Italian-American family in Brooklyn in 1953, he did not decide on a career in art until he was 20. Yet within a decade he was making the whirlwind of love and money in the unprecedented art boom of the 1980s. Longo's best-known work in perhaps his series of huge charcoal and graphite drawings, often in the shape of a cross, which he produced from 1979 to 1981. The pieces depict archetypal figures within abstract—often in reds and oranges in circular designs—existing in a state of struggle with a variety of forces: greed, ambition, ambition and each other.

Misty still refers to Longo as part of a triumvirate of 1980s New York City artists, along with David Salle and John Schaefer. But after 1985, Longo's work began to change. He was always troubled by the idea that was wrong with American art during the past decade: "an overuse of technical sophistication and sentimental blarney, with more wallops than resonance." And Longo's current focus on film-making has been described by some as just another recent trend. But he has always worked, expressing himself as a movement in action. He has also been a successful in rock bands and directed plays and opera while working in a variety of artistic media.

Directing movies may prove a career setback for Longo. But he says he's committed his efforts to engage both collectors and audiences alike. Staff members at his New York dealer, Metro Pictures, say his art—which came to be known as much as \$270,000 per work—dropped to more realistic amounts, about \$100,000, after the success of *Johnny Mnemonic*. "When I did this last retrospective of work in '89 [at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art], I built when it hit the brick wall. In 1990, I left New York and moved to Paris. The reason I left was because I was being blamed for the Eighth art world," after two years, Longo returned to New York, coincident, "I had recognized myself going a bit, and the world that had helped build me, once it knocked me down, couldn't help me anymore."

Now, with *Johnny Mnemonic*, Longo is questioning a new set of ideas and hoping to push changes that he sees as a double distance. "I was a great 'looking experience,' he says of the film. "I will not, I think, make other movies, once that I know how to do it."

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## FILMS

# Immorality tales

Three characters go out of their way to get a life

## A SIMPLE TWIST OF FATE

Directed by Helen Macdonald

**T**he way the TV commercials are promoting it, *A Simple Twist of Fate* looks like another lousy Steve Martin comedy. But despite some comic scenes, it is primarily a drama, the first in his career. Peeking away at a laptop computer between acting assignments, Martin spent four years writing the script, which

steadily under way, the movie becomes a heart-chafing fable of single fatherhood, dissolving in a comedy battle. But every so often, it turns into a Steve Martin movie, as its star seems out of character to perform some comic stunts. Catherine O'Hara, meanwhile, provides some hilarious moments in the role of a dotty shrinker. The comedy works. But as drama, *A Simple Twist of Fate's* narrative tangle is a simple case of fate intervening.



*Martin: a fable of single fatherhood dissolving in a comedy battle*

is loosely based on John Updike's 19th-century classic by George Flah. It is not exactly Martin's idea, but it is his but to be taken seriously. Unfortunately, the attempt seems forced.

The threads used to set up the story's ironic premise are so elaborately knotted that the movie could be more accurately titled *A Complicated Twist of Fate*. Michael (Martin, with orange hair) leaves his wife after discovering that she is pregnant with another man's child. Retreating to a cottage in Virginia, he becomes a recluse carpenter, and a minor. One night, the prodigal brother (Stephen Baldwin) in a head senator (Richard Gere) kills his date in a car crash, does the scene, then breaks into Michael's house and steals his collection of gold coins. Later, by wild coincidence, the senator's secret love child shows up at Michael's door, leaving her juvenile mother frozen in death in the snow. With the senator's help, Michael adopts the toddler.

## FRESH

Directed by Ross Yakin

In 1981, writer-director John Singleton broke new ground with *Boyz n the Hood*, a simple but effective tragedy about black youth victimized by gang violence in Los Angeles. Now, writer-director Boaz Yakin gives one story father with *Fresh*, a remarkable first feature with similar themes. The movie is named after its protagonist, a savvy 12-year-old who survives by his wits in the mean streets of Brooklyn, N.Y. Placed with antiheroes onscreen by Sean Nelson, Fresh is a smart, enigmatic kid who lives with his aunt and 11 cousins. He does his best to get to school on time and lead a normal life, but has a busy career in the drug trade. He peeps crack for a ruthless dealer named Corky (Don Brisco) and runs errands for a real gangster, the upstate Italian (Donnie Weisbach). Both men are present Fresh as a protégé, and the boy soon finds himself

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## FILMS

trapped in a web of conflicting loyalties.

Unlike *Rose N the Blood*, *Frail* is more that a morality tale of brotherly rivalry and violent innocence. Like *Angels and Demons*, *Frail* perhaps has subject matter brutal, but the story is not. *Frail* is a wonderfully complex plot—a case of conspiracy, greed and headstrong rivalry of an Elmore Leonard novel. *Frail* plays the bad guys off against each other with superior subtlety. And he leaves strategy in games of speed chess with his outrageous lies. In fact, a doublet game played by Leonard Jackson. Call it *Frail* in search of *Body Heat* or *But*, despite its antecedents, *Frail* more than lives up to its name in a work of starling originality and power.

### MUSTARD BEEH

Directed by Daniel Wayne

By cruel coincidence, a movie that was launched at last year's Toronto International Film Festival is finally being released during the opening week of this year's festival. That it has taken so long for *Mustard Beeh* to see the light of day seems in a blink confirmed on the precarious nature of Canadian film distribution, but also on the indigestible nature of this particular film. Its director, Toronto-based filmmaker Daniel Wayne, made a crucial splash with his first feature, the Green-owned warner *It's a Wonderful Life*, which he filmed exactly in Guyana, in a more ambitious project. And because it is so screenplotted on certain levels, its failure seems that much more infuriating.

Matthew (Michael Wiley), a Canadian medical student, returns to his childhood in Guyana and returns to a twisted search for his roots. With wild imagery, Wayne conjures up the agonized angst of a white man alone in the tropics—the decay, the insects, the racism that suffocates the walls. Matthew tries desperately to connect. He befriends Grace (Martha Henry), a Guyanese woman who becomes his romantic mother and his lover. A teacher named Wally (Glen Trust) loves him into a labyrinth of love, and he gets spiritual guidance from a drugged-up priest named Father Paul (John Gledhill).

Wiley gives a compelling performance in a role that demands intense emotions and graphic nudity. But, despite its initial promise, the narrative soon crumbles. Wayne politics it with gratuitous brutality—first Guyana's horrendous revolution, then a counter-revolutionary takeover to an agonizing scene of Matthew amputating a leg in a cane field. In the end, *Mustard Beeh*'s empty sentimentalism comes in on itself, leaving the viewer with nothing but an image of raw hatred in some tropical wasteland for a lack of subtlety.

BRIAN D. JOHNSON



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## BOOKS

### Not right enough

Republicans get scolded for betraying conservatism

#### DEAD RIGHT

By David Frum  
(Warner-Bacon, 200 pages, \$22.95)

There is a thread of sagacity in David Frum's *Dead Right*, a long essay on the recent rise and alleged decline of American conservatism. The title itself is enigmatic: does it signify that the political right is dead in America, corrupted by ideological extremists and contaminated by traitorous conservatives, as the Toronto-born author argues? No, conservatism remains a viable crusade, Frum concludes. Rather, as he comes up against the book's didactic chapters, the title may serve as a declaration that it is the author who is "dead right," a polemicist especially confident that he is among a declining few who are Conservative Correct.

It will not be Frum's fault if the U.S. Republican Party ignores his analysis of what is wrong, persists in pursuing single-issue, reductionist, jettisoning conservatism itself and fails to focus on a primary objective that strikes state-scholars: struggling government to a shadow. Without such reforms, conservatism is unlikely to argue what Ronald Reagan and George Bush believed away—an opportunity, says Frum, "for eliminating the progressive income tax and the redistributive welfare by Washington."

For Frum, it is clearly frustrating work serving in conservatism's Carle Nelson, a standard scold against the evils of big government rather than house. They have missed the crucial insight: the most deleterious consequences in the Republican Party—presidential promises Jack Kemp, William Bennett, and Pat Buchanan among them—for having been too far towards what the electorate wants instead of what, in the author's view, the people should get. Frum's argument of willful blindness by supporters who seek right-wing causes, such as endorsement in conservative

circles as media ideologue Rush Limbaugh, the "journalist brilliance" Ross Perot, the women, homophobes, anti-immigrants, fiscal conservatives and Christian radicals who, despite Frum's critique for their influence in Republican politics, have traditionally attached themselves to conservative movements since by association in Frum's book, those extremists and political frogmarchers



Frum: responding to doctrine for the tough-minded

almost as low as liberals and are nearly as dangerous as social democrats.

The rankings reflect the main mystery of *Dead Right*: Frum's premise that conservatism is in decline. In fact, 25 years after the advent of Thatcherism and Reaganism, the core tenets of Frum's conservatism—reduced government, balanced budgets, the erosion of social programs, the privatization of public enterprises—continue to be government's of any partisan stripe. Elements of Reagan's vision—economics struts

inset. Central bankers control the industrial world's economies. President Bill Clinton's family research proposal to intervene in the American health-care system, modeled by Frum as a historic expansion of government's role, was far from that. As with Clinton's so-called reforms of central law and welfare, his health plan was essentially conservative, leaving medical insurance largely in private hands.

But Frum is a disciplinarian. For a 34-year-old writer who has concentrated for journalists the icons of big business and the political right—among them *The Wall Street Journal*, *Forbes* magazine and the conservative American Spectator—he is undergoing all even more drastic attempts by government to release social wings or repair private enterprise. The author indicates *Dead Right* to his mother, the late Barbara Frum, who was there and fortune by serving Canada as a broadcaster

for the publicly owned CBC. For his part, Frum fits in as a disciplinarian by the idea that government should oversee, at least direct, an essential national service. Conservatives advocate minimal government, he explains, "because they believed a certain type of character—selfish, competent, crony and unaccountable—and talented government was the spirit of government under which the character they admired flourished best."

Most, conservatives, he writes, agree with a Frum that makes liberalism an "old decision" by Western man in the 14th century, namely "a decision to favor of moral arrogance, in favor of the radical reconstruction of the world along lines suggested by whatever reformist or revolutionary ideology happened to hold power at the moment." He tracks modern conservatism to the early 1800s (as can when Senator Joe McCarthy's anti-Communist fanaticism held America in thrall). What is to do? "Conservative intellectuals should focus in one a little less about the electoral prospects of the Republican Party," he concludes, "and do what intellectuals of all descriptions are obligated to do: practice honesty, and pay the price."

"Conservatism," Frum admits, "has never imagined to be a rising political ideology. It was always a doctrine for the tough-minded." Tough-minded he may be, at least when dealing with the intellectuals who offend him. And *Dead Right* is certainly not simple. After 300 pages of Frum's tight volume, surely may be a more appropriate adjective.

CARL MILLERS

# Preoccupied with the promised land

**THIS YEAR IN JERUSALEM**  
By Mordecai Richler  
(Nogal/Canada, 275 pages, \$29.95)

Ever since he published his wildly satirical novel *The Apprenticeship of Duddy Kravitz* in 1955, Mordecai Richler has been accused of giving his fellow Jews and Canadians a hard time. Yet a careful reading of his work reveals that the Montreal author does not play favorites. Throughout his career, Richler has delighted in exposing the follies of any downswing target—from amongst Westerners, gypsies and Parti Québécois ideologues to vulgar American film producers and naive English aristocrats. This *Year in Jerusalem* will disappoint the Richler critics who see him as merely an irreparable provocateur. In fact, his latest book is his most personal work of meditation in date,

marked by an engaging blend of irony and affection that gives it the charm of an imaginatively structured, carefully observed novel full of remarkable characters. The book is more than a lively anecdotal history of Zionism. For Richler, it is also a kind of testimony about what being a Jew and being a Canadian mean to him.

This *Year in Jerusalem* is a 50-year retrospective exploring the author's preoccupation with identity, a preoccupation that began consciously in 1964 when he was 13. Skipped in Montreal's Jewish immigrant culture, with its atmosphere of persecution and the hopes for a national homeland, Richler was one of a group of four friends who joined Nahman (Hirschowitz) for "builders", the youth wing of the socialist Zionist politi-

*The author, from Zionist youth to wandering rebel to writer*



cal party. These friends, all given pseudonyms, include Jerry Greenfield, whose athletic prowess and misadventure made him something of a local legend. Her shy Bloom, an overweight snafu with a weakness for chocolate (Richler said an admission for "snoots with social control"), Myer Flamin, the good-natured curly-haired son of a barber.

Despite a youthful idealism inspired partly by a desire to meet girls, none of the four ended up being in the promised land. The grandson of a sage in the street Hassidic sect, Richler became more rebel than rebel, spiritual leader, dropping out of university to sail to Paris rather than Israel when he decided that his true calling was to be a writer, not a Zionist pioneer. The other friends likewise went their separate ways, although their paths later crossed—a device in the book that links past and present and, through the tragicomic fate of Jerry Greenfield, cleverly helps to solve one of the story's key mysteries.

Richler loves trouble, and *This Year in Jerusalem* is full of it—trouble between Jew and gentile, French and English, the Orthodox and secular, Ashkenazi and Israeli, hawk and dove, Israeli Jew and North American Jew. But unlike *On Canadian Oil* (1993), in which Richler deliriously is celebrating the business on both sides of Canada's two-

skilades, the current book is not so much speaking for a fight as seeking understanding. He reminds us that Israeli diplomat Abba Eban once said the Palestinians have never released an opportunity to raise an opportunity in their search for a homeland. But then Richler goes on to quote a young Canadian UN relief worker who tells him "Look, the Palestinians weren't responsible for

lague. Another UN relief official, this one snail and patrolling, has the "master of a barrel relative if of human suffering." And Richler's exchange with a party Jerusalem taxi driver could have come straight from the pages of one of his novels. "So," says the cabbie, "you must be a rich guy, come over from Canada to see the forests you paid for. Where's your video camera?" Richler replies he does not have one. Understood, the cabbie presses on. "What kind of business are you in over there?" "Pulp and paper," the writer tells him.

Richler tackles head-on the painful questions that exist between Israeli and diaspora Jew and between secular and religious. These tensions are part of the book's underlying concern with the dual identity issue that Jews have dealt with throughout most of their history. For himself, Richler asserts he needs neither to live in Israel to be a Jew, nor to deny his ancestral culture to be a Canadian. He writes unequivocally: "I am a Canadian, born and bred, brought up not only on Hilts, Robt, Meltz and Bantz, but also on kibbutz, Andrew Allen's CBC Radio 'Stage' Series, a crated Maurice Richard sliding in over the blue line." In *This Year in Jerusalem*, "Rocher" Richler is at the top of his own game.

MORDECAI RICHIER

*Exploring his life, Mordecai Richler ponders his dual identity as a Jew and a Canadian*

the Holocaust and shouldn't be asked to pay for it."

This *Year in Jerusalem* is less a study of the character of politics than the study of character. Most of the Israelis and Palestinians the author talks to express opinions that have been heard before. What makes the book worth reading is Richler's eye for the telling detail, his ear for the idiosyncrasies of dis-

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# Paving the path to glory

BY STEWART MACLEOD

**D**arned hard to figure why so many Canadians of the *Juste victoire* (development external) rallies over the idea of an independent Québec. The way that guy, Jacques Parizeau, describes his new country-winning, we'll all be scrambling to join in.

Talk about maps on our doorstep? Who in heaven's name would want to continue along away in TBOC (the rest of Canada) when Parizeau's paradise is, in our case in Ottawa at least, just across the river?

And it looks as though we won't even have to give up our Canadian passports. Matter of fact, we won't even have to battle with a new currency, since a prospective Parizeau government seems to have no serious attachment for the dollar with the Queen's picture. By June, the party economist has even had at least one in the Commonsense.

It gets better by the minute. After all these years of living with high and chronic unemployment, imagine the joys of virtually full employment, including provincial jobs for the 20,000 federal public servants now living in Québec.

Not only that, there's a firm Parti Québécois commitment to eliminate the province's \$6-billion budgetary deficit within two years. Then despite a set of campaign promises which, according to the *Independent* by objective Liberals, could cost \$8 billion.

There will be capital gains, perhaps bringing back memories of a 1950s Prince Edward Island campaign when, because of an amount of government program revenues, there were even signs saying "Thanks property. Please don't leave." These signs were said to have appeared after a privately owned service station had its lot paved courtesy of the provincial government. But these tales might have political motivations.

Anyway, to avoid further aggression, it's worth pointing out that Parizeau plans to in-

*Jacques Parizeau's vision of a separatist utopia sounds so tempting that the rest of Canada may want to join the fun*

crease public works spending by a whopping \$500 million.

And you know what? There will be no increase in personal income tax. Not a penny's worth. And it doesn't seem one in which the new president might have some expertise. It's in the taxation field. As finance minister during the Rose Lévesque era, he's alleged to have raised taxes 55 times.

That allegation, it should be duly reported, comes from Premier Daniel Johnson, who in the heat of a campaign battle, could be forgiven for the odd misstatement. But even 40 increases would establish an impressive set of credentials.

And thank of the fisheries, or at least new fish experience? According to Parizeau, this particular brand of Québecers are "prisoners of the Gulf of St. Lawrence" because of Canada's restrictive fishing laws. Independence, he says, would open the entire Canadian coastal waters to new fishing fleets.

Sorry, there are no sail-free members for exploration.

Hey, how about the 2003 Winter Olympics, the ones being sought by Québec City? According to Parizeau, Ottawa would be obligated to contribute \$240 million even if

Québec were a sovereign nation. "That contract, like any contract, will be fulfilled," he declared with a confounding confidence.

In Confederation a contract? Just asking. Anyway, wouldn't it be fun living in the first country to have its Olympics financed by foreigners?

Should one decide to move to the new country, there are good reasons to consider settling down in Parizeau's own constituency. "In one day alone," reported the *Montreal Gazette*, "he promised his home riding of *Châteauguay* a hospital, a clinic (university college), a concert hall and other public projects totalling more than \$120 million." That, in all probability, would include the odd patch of paving.

Oh yes, there's going to be a Québec unity offensive with more employment opportunities. And to be helpful here, Ottawa might want to offer a special deal on a bunch of market green uniforms. They were all the rage in the seventies and eighties.

If further inducements were required for us to move to the new country, we can also look towards cheaper air fares. Having experienced the catastrophic effects of regulation, deregulation and total deregulation in TBOC, we can only assume that Parizeau's promise of lower fares in an independent Québec wouldn't have been made without due research.

This is not to suggest that the thought of a cheap weekend in Val d'Or would, by itself, justify a hasty move to Montreal. But it's all part of the bigger picture.

Not for a moment are we suggesting that the separatists are the only party group with promises. But the trouble with the Liberals—the only realistic alternative to the Parti Québécois—is that they're incoherent. And you know what that means: it means a continuation of the despised Goods and Services Tax. Not only that, there will still be federal income tax, and worst of all, those monstrous subsidies we don't see in such per centric-minded organizations as the CBC. In a sovereign Québec, we could presumably pick up a cheap secondhand satellite dish and, with many a depressing thought about subsidies, enjoy endless hours with Don Cherry, or, if you prefer, Adrienne Clarkson. Now, we're really talking independence in decisions.

Furthermore, there's that wordless Canadian sport of smuggling to consider. As things stand, there's only the U.S. border to traverse with Indian luggage. We already see new challenges. It's no fun being one of the few countries with only one decent smuggling border.

Admittedly, an independent Québec would present some obvious immigration-type complications for TBOCers, while watching being one of them. But, assuming we'll all be ripe for green cards—blue, perhaps—the overall prospects of independence are fairly exhilarating. Just hope they let us in.

Stewart MacLeod is Ottawa columnist for Thomson News Service.



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